

Quick Start Guide to WMTA District Auditions (for Piano Solo)

For more details on rules, or more info on duets or other instruments, please visit the District Auditions section of the WMTA website.

Different Tracks – What Do They Mean?

- “Track”, in WMTA, implies the different divisions a student can enter.
- See the separate categories below for details on Theory and Repertoire requirements.
- State track entrants, grades 4-12, will only qualify for the Badger Competition if they receive 14/15 points in performance and 4/5 points in theory.
- Only State track entrants grades 4-12 are eligible to advance to Badger Competition. Students in grades 1-3 may participate in State track and receive points, but they are not eligible to advance to Badger Competition.
- For information on Badger Competition, see the Badger Competition section of the WMTA website.

Track	Reg. Fee	Grades	Performance and Theory Reqs.	Max Points
D2	\$20	1-12	2 pieces memorized	10 points (5 each)
			Theory test, any level	5 points
D2-NM	\$20	7-12	2 pieces, performed with music	8 points (4 each)
			Theory test, any level	5 points
D3	\$25	7-12	3 pieces= 2 memorized + 1 w/music	15 points (5 each)
			Theory test, any level	5 points
State	\$25	4-12	3 pieces memorized	15 points (5 each)
			Theory test, leveled by grade	5 points

Theory Test

- All entrants are required to take a theory test. (See Table 1 above for any level requirements.)
- Theory Test levels do not align perfectly with any method book, but you can find practice tests and study guides at the District Auditions section of the WMTA website.
- The theory room is open during the day while auditions are being held, except during lunch. It takes about 20-30 minutes to complete. Tests are on a drop-in basis, not on a schedule, so students must plan on taking the test before or after their audition.
- Paper keyboards are provided as a reference during the test.
- **Parents and teachers are not allowed inside;** in cases of a learning disability or the student cannot yet read, the student’s teacher should contact the District Chair ahead of the application due date to discuss an amenable solution for all parties.
- **Students in all tracks may pass a specific theory level twice before being required to move up to the next level.** Teachers may elect to move their students up sooner at their discretion, or because of State Track minimums.
- **Students in State Track must complete at least the minimum theory level recommended for their grade.** (See Table 2.) Students in tracks D2, D2NM, and D3 are not tied to grade, so teachers may choose the theory test best suited for their level.
- If the student is doing State track in multiple instruments, they are allowed to take both minimum required theory tests allowed for their instruments, OR only the higher level of the two. (Only allowed for State track.)

Grade	Piano/Organ	Vocal/Instr.
1	Pre-Elem.	Pre-Elem.
2	Pre-Elem.	Pre-Elem.
3	Pre-Elem.*	Pre-Elem.
4	Elem. B	Elem. A
5	Elem. C	Elem. A
6	Elem. C	Elem. A
7	Int. A	Elem. A
8	Int. B	Elem. A
9	Int. B	Elem. A
10	Int. C	Elem. B
11	Int. C	Elem. C
12	Adv. A	Int. A

The Audition Room / Repertoire

- Practice rooms are available to students for the entire Auditions day.
- Parents are allowed in the audition room for State track auditions only, and only for their own children’s performances.
- Talking to or discussing the score with the judge is prohibited, and no video or recording devices of any kind are allowed. Violation of these rules may result in disqualification for the student.
- **All entrants must play pieces that are stylistically different.**

(cont’d on next page)

- **In D2 and D2-NM track, all entrants** grades 7-12 must play pieces from different composers. Different composers for students grades 1-6 are encouraged, but not required.
- **All D3 and State track students** must play pieces from different composers, and one must be from the WMTA Baroque & Classical list.
- Folk songs are allowed, but arrangements and other music not originally written for piano solo are not. Folk songs are categorized into the period of the arranger, not when they approximately originated.
- One or more movements from a Sonata, Sonatina, or Suite may be played as one “piece”, or any combination from a Theme and Variations.
- All pieces must be 16 measures; but two smaller pieces by the same composer may be combined and count as one “piece”. If the piece is not 16 measures total, no points will be awarded for that piece.
- No photocopies allowed. Legally purchased and downloaded music is allowed, but the parent must download and sign the WMTA Copyright Representation Form and bring to Auditions. If the form is not there with the music at Auditions, no points will be awarded to the piece.
- Measures must be numbered for all entrants grades 7-12. If the measures are not numbered, one point will be deducted from the total performance score.
- For the most accurate information on to which era a piece/composer belongs, look it up in the Ovation database (see below).

Awards

- Points accumulate per student, per instrument, and includes District Auditions and Badger Competition.
- Duet points count toward both students’ individual points for that instrument.
- One theory test can count toward multiple instruments’ points for the same student.
- Plaques are earned at 22, 100, and 200 points. Bars (for the plaques) are earned every 25 points in between.
- High school students earn a medal after performing in District Auditions all four years of high school.
- Awards are ordered and distributed after District and Badger events.

Registration – ovation.wmta.net

- WMTA membership must be current in order to register students on the Ovation site. (Before October 15 of the school year.) Otherwise, you must pay a non-member fee of \$100 to your district chair to gain access to Ovation. New members pay only the regular membership fee.
- Paper registrations are not accepted.
- Log in using your first-initial-last-name as the login (ex. jsmith), and use your MTNA ID number as the password.
- The Ovation directions and help guide is located in Ovation. After you log in, click on the “Help” button in the upper-right-hand corner to find it in a list of resources.
- At any time during the year, you may view or update your contact info, view your students’ info and current points, or look up composers and pieces while logged into Ovation.
- Registration is open from January 1 until the application due date for that district.
- Registrations must be complete to be considered eligible. No changes to repertoire or theory level will be allowed after the application due date. “Upgrades” to other tracks are not allowed after the due date.
- Payment must be postmarked by or on the application due date. (See Table 1 at the top of the first page for fee info.)
- Print your fee form from Ovation (ask a friend or go to a library or copy center if you don’t own a printer), and send it with a check made out to WMTA to your district chair or designated representative. Handwritten fee forms are not accepted.
- Please only send one check, made out for the total amount. Do not send certified mail.

Teacher Work Required

- WMTA Auditions are a volunteer-driven event. We are always looking for more teachers, parents, and students to help!
- Teachers will be expected to work an AM or PM shift at District Auditions (approx. 3 hours). Teachers are responsible to make sure they or their substitute are signed up for a shift.
- If you suddenly cannot work your shift, you must find a substitute to work for that time. Send their name and contact info to the District Chair ASAP.
- If you and/or your sub do not show and cannot be reached, you will be charged \$75 by WMTA, dependent on circumstances. If the payment is not received within 30 days of the invoice, your students will be barred from WMTA events for one year.
- Student results, comment forms, theory tests, and certificates will be available at the end of the day, and available for only the teachers (not a substitute or parent) to pick up. Otherwise, they will be sent to the teacher.
- Teachers should be able to view their students’ complete results on Ovation immediately after the event.