



Wisconsin Association of FFA State FFA Honors Band General Information

Application Due in February

Refer to State FFA Calendar for exact deadline

The State FFA Honors Band consists of about sixty to eighty musicians which rehearse and perform at both the State FFA Convention and the Wisconsin State Fair. These members are selected through an application and a recorded audition reviewed by the State FFA Honors Band Director. No FFA member will be allowed to participate in the State FFA Honors Band for more than a total of five (5) years. Band members must provide their own instruments and music stands for the various performances. Notifications will take place in the first week of May or earlier. State Band pins will be awarded to each band member following the last performance at State Fair.

Applications should be submitted only by those who will be available at these MANDATORY FFA Honors Band functions. These functions include the following:

1. **State FFA Convention:** In June, the State FFA Convention is held in the Exhibition Hall of the Alliant Energy Center of Dane County in Madison.
 - a. Local chapters are responsible for housing and covering expenses of members participating in the band.
 - b. No special housing arrangements are made for band members.
2. **Wisconsin State Fair:** In August (the last four days of the State Fair), the band performs at the Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis, Wisconsin.
 - a. Participants will be housed and provided meals in the State Fair dormitory located on State Fairgrounds.
 - b. Each member will be charged \$80 for lodging, meals and admission at the Fair. (The State FFA Association will cover the balance of the expenses for the above items.) This amount will need to be paid by June 1 prior to state FFA convention to confirm participation. More information will be provided to those selected to participate.
 - c. Health forms must be filled out prior to the State FFA Convention and submitted to the Wisconsin FFA Center by June 1. State FFA staff will officially enter members as participants of the State Fair.

FFA members who apply for State FFA Honors Band are expected to totally fulfill their commitment if selected. Only extenuating circumstances should prevent an applicant from participating. It shall be the responsibility of the FFA Honors Band member and local FFA Advisor to notify the State FFA Honors Band Director and the Wisconsin FFA Center if difficulties arise.

Every band member should recognize the need for commitment, if the total group is to meet its potential. Complete responsibility to the other members is a must. If the applicant is not reasonably certain as to their availability, they should not apply.

**THREE STEP APPLICATION PROCESS – DUE / POSTMARKED BY DESIGNATED
DUE DATE SET BY FFA CENTER EACH YEAR**

STEP ONE: Audition - Audio Recording- follow the [directions for audition recordings](#)

Please read the Audition Instructions for specific details in creating a recorded audition. Recorded auditions will be linked as part of the online application process.

All recorded auditions must be the work of the applicant and should be a top-quality performance to accurately review the applicant's musical ability.

STEP TWO: Entry Fee

Each band application requires a \$15 entry fee to cover processing, mailings and related expenses. Applicants will not be accepted into the FFA band if an entry fee is not received.

The \$15 entry fee must be paid online by the chapter FFA advisor through the online event registration system. ***Chapter FFA advisors only have access to this site, so you must work with them to submit an entry fee. Do not send entry fees to the Wisconsin FFA Center.***

STEP THREE: Application

Please complete the Band Application and Director's Evaluation online. Check verification with your FFA advisor and parents before submitting.

A COMPLETE STATE FFA HONORS BAND APPLICATION INCLUDES

Audio submission **linked** by 11:59 pm on application due date.

___ Wisconsin State Honors Band Application

___ Recorded Audition Link

___ Director's Evaluation PDF Link

___ \$15 Entry Fee (FFA Advisor completes via WI Ag Ed Website)

If any piece of your application is missing it will not be reviewed and you forfeit your entry fee.

National FFA Band Nominations

Application for the National FFA Band is optional. From the selected applicants, the State FFA Honors Band Director will select those individuals they feel are qualified to be nominated for the National FFA Band.

National FFA Band nominations will be announced at the State FFA Convention. Once an individual is nominated, they will receive the proper application to be forwarded to the National FFA Band director. If selected for the National FFA Band, members would perform at the National FFA Convention.

Money may be available through the Wisconsin FFA Foundation Inc. to assist National Band participants with some expenses. To participate in the National Band, a member must participate at both the State FFA Convention and Wisconsin State Fair.