



Alabama Vocal Association

Outstanding Choral Student auditions are held in each district to select a male and a female winner who then compete at the state level to be selected as Outstanding Male or Outstanding Female Choral Student. All candidates will prepare a résumé and a vocal solo, and will be interviewed after performing at both levels. All district and state OCS winners are honored at the All-State Concert, and the State Male and Female OCS winners perform on the concert, and receive scholarships.

Standing Rules for **Outstanding Choral Student (OCS)**

1 Eligibility

1. To be eligible to audition for Outstanding Choral Student a student must:
 - a. Have the character and record of choral participation to represent the district as an outstanding example of the model choral student
 - b. Be a high school junior or senior
 - c. Have participated in All-State choir (SATB, SSA, TTBB) the previous year
 - d. Have been selected for the current year's All-State Choir (participation in ASSC does not affect eligibility for OCS candidacy)
 - e. Have an overall C average or above
 - f. Be enrolled in the high school choral program at their school
 - g. Not be a previous State OCS winner (previous OCS State winners are not eligible to audition again)
2. The choral director must be a member of AVA/MENC (menc.org).
3. If a school is on the block system, students who are enrolled for one semester in that school year will be eligible for all AVA activities during that entire school year.
4. AVA recognizes and includes homeschool choirs with the following stipulation: homeschool choirs must meet at least weekly for students to be eligible to participate in AVA events.
5. Students must be in good standing with their choral department and their school to participate in any AVA event.
6. A director may nominate as many OCS candidates from the school choral program as are eligible.

2 Music and Résumé

1. Each candidate for OCS will sing one solo selection from memory.
2. Candidates do NOT need to supply music for the adjudicators, although accompanists must have original music (no photocopies).
3. Students, with the director's help, must compile the **Outstanding Choral Student Résumé** that contains **Form F6.3 as the cover page** and the additional components listed below, and must bind them IN THIS ORDER:
 - a. OCS Résumé Form Form 6.3 (as the cover sheet)
 - b. A current photograph
 - c. A list of school vocal/choral organizations in which you have participated (starting with the present and going backwards through grade 7).
 - d. A list of music related honors (starting with the present and going backwards through grade 7).
 - e. A list of other music related activities.
 - f. An essay (300 words or less) describing what the choral music experience means to you.
 - g. 3 letters (and ONLY 3) of recommendation: 1 from your school choral director, and 2 others from a counselor, principal, teacher, or other adult.
 - h. A synopsis of school choral program provided by director.

3 Application for District Level OCS

1. A complete audition application includes:
 - a. **OCS/OA/ME Registration Form F6.1**
 - b. **OCS/OA/ME Student List F6.2**
 - c. **school check** made out to *Alabama Vocal Association* or signed school Purchase Order for Total Fees
 - d. a copy of your **MENC card** if you joined or updated after September 1
2. Outstanding Choral Student registration fees include:
 - a. \$40.00 school fee (there is only one school fee for OCS, OA, and ME for each school)
 - b. \$10.00 fee for each student
 - c. (\$50.00 late fee if registering after the deadline)
3. **Mail your complete application by the deadline to your District Chairman.**
4. No applications will be accepted later than one week prior to audition/interview date.
5. Directors must have current MENC membership in order for their students to participate. If your membership is not current when you submit the registration, be prepared to present proof of membership (MENC card or cancelled check to MENC) when you register at the registration desk.

4 The Audition

1. Directors will receive notification of the audition time(s) after the complete registration application has been received and the OCS times have been scheduled.
2. Directors should arrive at the OCS audition site for registration at least one hour prior to the first scheduled warm-up time.
3. Directors should bring to the registration desk **three copies** of the **Outstanding Choral Student Résumé** (with Form F6.3 as the cover page) for each applicant.
4. Attire for the audition is not specified, but dress clothes such as that for a job interview or college audition (rather than formal evening wear) are appropriate.
5. Each district nominee will perform from memory one vocal selection of his/her choice.
6. After singing the vocal selection, each district nominee will be interviewed by the panel of judges.
7. The panel of two or three judges will select a male and a female winner from each district, if there are qualified candidates.
8. The three components of the total score for each candidate shall be weighted as: Résumé 35%, Performance 35%, and Interview 30%.
9. The choral directors of all of the OCS participants will be notified by phone call or email within 24 hours after the auditions as to the results of the audition.
10. The district chairman will return the candidate résumés to the director at or after the OCS audition.

5 State Level Auditions

1. There is no separate registration form for State OCS candidates; however, directors of district winners are responsible for providing **seven resumes** (the state resume may be identical to the district resume) for the state level OCS competition. These resumes should be delivered to the District Chairman *one week prior* to the All-State Festival.
2. Auditions will be held in a designated room at the All-State site on the Wednesday afternoon and evening before All-State begins on Thursday. A group photograph will be taken between the scheduled female and male OCS auditions. District Chairs will notify directors of OCS candidates about time of arrival for the audition.
3. The music requirement, performance and interview process, attire standards, and scoring rubric are the same as at the district level.

4. The seven District Chairmen on the Board of Directors will serve as the panel of adjudicators for the State OCS candidates. District Chairs will not score their own District representatives.
5. One state level male OCS winner and one state level female OCS winner will be chosen, if there are qualified candidates.

6 District and State OCS Winners

1. State OCS winners will be announced on Thursday or Friday at All-State (time to be designated by the AVA President).
2. State OCS winners will each perform their vocal selection at the high school All-State concert and will receive a trophy and a scholarship award.
3. The remaining District OCS winners will receive trophies at the All-State festival.
4. The schools of each OCS State winner will receive a plaque.

7 Scholarships

All AVA scholarships will be paid directly to the college in which the recipient is enrolled. It is the responsibility of each AVA scholarship recipient to notify the Executive Secretary of his/her college enrollment in order for payment to be made. Students will forfeit the AVA scholarship if they fail to use it within five (5) years.