

2022-23 STATE FINALS PEP BAND SELECTIONS

The Illinois High School Association is pleased to invite all IHSA member schools to audition for selection as an IHSA State Final Pep Band. Before competition even commences, the pep band begins to fill the building with energy and excitement in anticipation for the on-court action. That is one reason why the IHSA takes great pride in our member school's pep band programs, which for decades have been a cornerstone in many of our championships. Our traditions are deeply rooted in creating events that celebrate the entire school population, and this is another fantastic opportunity to showcase your school's talents at a state final venue.

Included in this correspondence you will find information, audition requirements, and event schedules. We encourage you to participate in the audition process and feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need any additional information.

STATE FINAL INFORMATION:

Selected pep bands will be invited to perform on one of the three days of the 2022-2023 Girls State Final Basketball Tournament, one of three days of the 2022-2023 Boys State Final Basketball Tournament, or one-half day of two days of the 2023-2024 Girls State Final Volleyball Tournament. Due to the venue sizes, please note the listed participant limitations.

Tournament dates & game times are as follows:

Girls Basketball - Redbird Arena, Normal (ISU) - 60 max. participants

- Girls Class 1A & 2A: Sessions 1 & 2; Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
**Option to stay and play for Session 3 at 7:00 p.m.*
- Girls Class 3A & 4A: Sessions 4 & 5; Friday, March 3, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
**Option to stay and play for Session 6 at 7:00 p.m.*
- Girls (All Classes): Sessions 7 & 8; Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball - State Farm Center, Champaign (U of I) - 40 max. participants

- Boys Class 1A & 2A: Sessions 1 & 2; Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
**Option to stay and play for Session 3 at 7:00 p.m.*
- Boys Class 3A & 4A: Sessions 4 & 5; Friday, March 10, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
**Option to stay and play for Session 6 at 7:00 p.m.*
- Boys (All Classes): Sessions 7 & 8; Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Girls Volleyball - Redbird Arena, Normal (ISU) - 60 max. participants

- Girls Class 1A & 2A: Session 1; Friday, November 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
Session 2; Friday, November 10, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
- Girls Class 3A & 4A: Session 3; Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
Session 4; Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

REIMBURSEMENT:

Each pep band participating will receive round trip mileage reimbursement at \$2 per mile plus a meal allotment of \$9 per person for the number of members in the pep band that perform. A maximum number of **60 participants (Redbird Arena)** or **40 participants (State Farm Center)**, including pep band members and director(s), will be allowed for admission and reimbursement. IHSA reimbursements will be sent to the school after the pep band performs. The IHSA can also provide information on tickets for additional band members and fans.

LOGISTICS:

Designated space for the performing pep band will be provided at each site. An event manager from each venue will be available to answer questions and coordinate with each school. Performers will be admitted to the arena as a group at no charge only for those sessions in which they are scheduled to perform. Pep band members will not be admitted to any other sessions of any tournament without a paid ticket for admission as a spectator.

Each participating pep band will be asked to be in position and begin performing no later than 30 minutes before the start of each session (times listed above). Pep bands will coordinate with the event PA announcer and should plan to play during pre-game, time-outs, between quarters, halftime, and post-game.

SELECTION PROCESS

The performing pep bands will be chosen by the IHSA Office with assistance from selected music educators. YouTube recordings (**audio & video combined**) should include samples of energetic music that encourage crowd involvement. We want to hear and see your pep band in action! Record brief segments of a variety of selections. Also, include examples of "cheering fanfares" used to excite the crowd! Auditions will be reviewed on technical proficiency, tonal quality, and general musicianship as related to a pep band event. If applicable, consideration is given for pep bands to perform at state finals in aligning classifications. If selected, the school administrator (principal or IHSA official representative) will be notified, and the list of selected bands will be posted on the IHSA website (music menu page).

If you are interested in having your pep band considered for selection, complete the online application form, and send it electronically along with the YouTube link.

Deadline for submission is December 14, 2022

Here's the link to the online form "**IHSA Pep Band Audition Application**":
(Copy and paste the link into the browser)

PAST STATE FINAL PEP BAND PARTICIPANTS:

“We are honored to represent Joliet Township High School at this event. Our students really enjoy what we do at the home basketball games at Central Campus. This gives them a chance to ‘take it on the road’. It should be great fun for all.”

~JCHS Band Director, Mike Fiske.

“It is an honor to be selected for this performance opportunity, and the band is excited to help bring energy and enthusiasm to the state basketball championships.”

~LWWHS Band Director, Cary Ruklic.



PEP BAND AUDITION TIMELINE & CHECKLIST

1. Create YouTube video (**audio & visual**) of pep band showcasing performances and highlighting a variety of pep band music.
2. Complete online application and attach YouTube link by Wednesday, December 14th, 2022.
3. Wait for selection announcements (School’s principal or IHSA official representative is contacted and selected bands are posted on the IHSA music menu page in January 2023).
4. If selected, IHSA will send additional information so schools can make plans for performing!

Questions regarding the audition and selection process can be directed to the IHSA Office at 309-663-6377.