

NSBA

BETTER BANDS FOR NEBRASKA

8th Grade All-State

Jazz Band Audition Information

Dates and Audition Submission

All auditions must be recorded by the school and submitted digitally. Audition materials are to be **submitted by midnight, Saturday, October 11, 2025 to Karlie Sines**. Entries will be submitted through a Google Form. More info on this as the audition deadline approaches. ***The event will take place on Saturday, January 10th, 2026 with a weather makeup day the following Saturday, January 17th, 2026.*** Both dates will take place in Kearney, NE at Kearney High School. Please be sure students are available for **both** dates before auditioning.

Audition Materials

Winds and Vibes audition pieces will be taken from ***The Real Easy Book*** by Sher Music Co. You will need the B-flat, E-flat, Bass Clef and C versions of this book. The page numbers correspond to the latest "3-Horn Edition" of The Real Easy Book. ***Tenor Saxophones will use the B-flat book for the auditions.***

Audition Requirements

Students may choose to audition on one or more instruments. Any student trying out on multiple instruments needs to clearly indicate order of preference if selected to multiple ensembles/instruments on their forms. A separate form should be submitted for each instrument on which a student auditions. Audition procedures for jazz band can be found below.

Jazz rhythm section etudes and improv backing tracks can be found on the NSBA website. <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home>
You can also scan QR code on the last page.

8th Grade All-State Jazz Band Instrumentation

	Selected	Alternate
<u>Winds</u>		
Alto Sax	2	1
Tenor Sax	2	1
Baritone Sax	1	1
Trumpet	4	1
Trombone	4	1
<u>Rhythm</u>		
Piano	1	1
Bass	1	1
Guitar	1	1
Drum Set	2	1
Vibes	1	1
Total	19	10

Procedure for Winds:

(Please refer to the concert band audition procedures regarding introductions and school codes).

1. Student records the chromatic scale that is used for the concert band auditions.
2. 1st etude student records from **The Real Easy Book** is *Doxy* (p. 30) The student will play through the head once (that is the first 16 measures). Swing style, mm=144
3. 2nd etude student records from **The Real Easy Book** is *Song for My Father* (p. 126) Same thing, play through the head once. This is AAB form, so play the 1st & 2nd ending, bridge at B, and end at Coda Sign. Latin straight 8ths style, mm=126. (*Tenor Sax players – the measures that have notes out of the instrument's range – play them up an octave.*)
4. The student will improvise 2 choruses (24 measures) of Bb Blues using the accompaniment track found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz 12-Bar Blues Tracks.

Vibes:

1. Student records *Doxy* from **The Real Easy Book** p. 30 from the C edition. The student will play through the head once (that is the first 16 measures), no repeat. Swing Style, mm=144.
2. Student records *Song for my Father* from **The Real Easy Book**, p. 126 of the C edition. This is AAB form, so play the 1st & 2nd ending, bridge at B, and end at Coda Sign. Latin straight 8ths style, mm=126.
3. Student will improvise 2 choruses (24 measures) of Bb Blues using the accompaniment track found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz 12-Bar Blues Tracks.

Procedure for Guitar:

1. Student records *Doxy*. The guitar part for *Doxy* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**.
2. Student records *Song for my Father*. The guitar part for *Song for my Father* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**. Please play the repeat.
3. The student will improvise 2 choruses (24 measures) of Bb Blues using the accompaniment track found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz 12-Bar Blues Tracks.

Piano:

1. Student records *Doxy*. The piano part for *Doxy* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**.
2. Student records *Song for my Father*. The piano part for *Song for my Father* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**. Please play the repeat.
3. The student will improvise 2 choruses (24 measures) of Bb Blues using the accompaniment track found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz 12-Bar Blues Tracks.

Bass:

1. Student records *Doxy*. The bass part for *Doxy* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Swing style, mm=144.
2. Student records *Song for my Father*. The bass part for *Song for My Father* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Latin straight 8ths style, mm=126.
3. Student will improvise 2 choruses (24 measures) of Bb Blues using the accompaniment track found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz 12-Bar Blues Tracks.

Drum Set:

1. Student records *Doxy*. The drum set part for *Doxy* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**.
2. Student records *Song for my Father*. The drum set part for *Song for my Father* can be found on the website at <https://nsbma.org/8th-grade-all-state-home> under Jazz Rhythm Section Etudes. Do not use the version in **The Real Easy Book**. Please play the repeat.
3. Student will improvise in medium swing time. Play 4 measures of time, 4 measures of solo/fill, 4 measures of time and 4 measures of solo/fill as if they were “trading 4s” for a total of 16 measures.

Scan below to access NSBA 8th Grade All-State Page

