

A Quick Guide to Marching Band Contests

	OMEA	MSBA
Who are they?	Ohio Music Education Association	Mid-States Band Association
CLASS How are bands classified?	By school enrollment Class determined by number of students in grades 10-12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AA: 901+ • A: 501-900 • B: 301-500 • C: 300 and fewer 	By band size Class determined by number of playing members (does not include auxiliary): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: 1-35 • AA: 36-50 • AAA: 51-70 • AAAA: 71-100 • Open: 101+
JUDGES How many judges are there?	10 judges total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Music • Two General Effect • One Visual Performance • One Visual Effect • One Percussion • Two Auxiliary • One Timing & Penalties 	Minimum of 7 judges Three General Effect <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music GE #1 2. Music GE #2 3. Visual GE Two Performance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music Performance 2. Visual Performance Two Caption Judges <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Percussion 2. Auxiliary One Timing & Penalty
SCORING How are bands scored?	The final rating is determined by the average ratings of the music, visual, GE, and percussion judges. Auxiliary scores are not calculated in the final rating; however, the auxiliary is taken into consideration by GE and Visual judges. Ratings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Superior II. Excellent III. Good IV. Fair V. Poor 	Scoring is based on the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music GE – 40 points • Visual GE – 20 points • Music Performance – 20 pts • Visual Performance – 20 pts Percussion and Auxiliary scores do not factor into the overall competition placement scores.

<p>AWARDS</p> <p>What awards are given?</p>	<p>Placement and specialty awards are given for each class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First place band • Second place band, etc. • Best Auxiliary • Best Percussion <p>Awards are also given among the combined classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Overall GE • Best Overall Visual • Best Overall Music • Grand Champion 	<p>Placement and specialty awards are given for each class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Music • Best Visual • Best GE • Best Auxiliary • Best Percussion • Band Placement (rank order, by score) <p>Awards are also given among the combined classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grand Champion • Reserve Grand Champion
<p>QUALIFYING FOR STATE</p> <p>How do we qualify?</p>	<p>Band must receive a Superior (I) rating at a local OMEA competition.</p>	<p>Band must perform in at least one local MSBA competition</p>
<p>STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS</p>	<p>Bands are given ratings only (I-V) and are not ranked against other bands. The goal for each band is to receive a Superior (I) rating.</p>	<p>Preliminaries determine which bands advance to the finals, with the highest scoring bands advancing, regardless of class. Awards are given to the highest scoring bands in the finals.</p>