

**Section 241**  
**VOCAL CONTESTS**

**A. GENERAL**

1. All vocal events require memorization
2. Pianos in good tune and up to pitch (A-440 at room temperature of approximately 70 degrees F) will be provided.
3. Participants in TAPPS music competition are responsible for providing all instruments and equipment necessary for their performance.

**B. LARGE ENSEMBLE.**

1. Large Ensembles will consist of a minimum of 8 members. If a Large Ensemble has a membership of 8-20, it may enter as a Small Ensemble or as a Large Ensemble but not both.
2. Large Ensembles must use Live Accompaniment.
3. Maximum time allowed will be fifteen minutes for warm-up and twenty minutes for set up and performance.
4. Schools may enter one or more Large Ensembles with the same voicing, but there may not be overlapping personnel. For example: a school may enter 2 SAB Large Ensembles but no student may be in both SAB Large Ensembles.
5. No Large Ensemble may perform the same selections as another Large Ensemble from the same school.
6. Students may enter a maximum of TWO Large Ensembles with overlapping personnel For example: It is possible for a student to enter a Mixed Choir Large Ensemble and a Women's Choir Large Ensemble.
7. 1A/2A/3A Large Ensembles must perform three selections from memory:
  - a. Two selections taken from the UIL PML Grade II, III, IV, or V. Selections must be taken from a chorus list (931, 933, or 935) not an ensemble list. Grade I pieces may be performed but the ensemble will not advance to the State level.
  - b. One selection of the director's choice, and
  - c. One selection must be performed a cappella to advance to the State meet.
8. 4A/5A Large Ensembles must perform three selections from memory (all four requirements must be met):
  - a. Two selections from the UIL PML Grade III, IV, or V. Selections must be taken from a chorus list (931, 933, 935) not an ensemble list. Grade I or II pieces may be performed but the ensemble will not advance to the State level.
  - b. One selection of the director's choice.
  - c. One selection must be performed *a cappella*.
  - d. One selection must be performed in a foreign language.
9. Large ensembles must supply for judges THREE ORIGINAL conductor scores for each song performed with measures numbered.

**C. SIGHT-READING.** Refer to the Sight-Reading Guidelines in the Vocal Documents section of [www.tappster.com](http://www.tappster.com) for procedure and expectations.

1. All Large Ensembles have the option to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level.

2. Once a Large Ensemble has elected to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level, they must participate in Sight-reading at the State level if they advance. Once a Large Ensemble has elected not to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level, they will not be allowed to participate in sight-reading at the State level.
3. A school may enter only one sight-reading entry per voicing (SAB, SSA, TTB) at the Region and State levels.
4. 1A/2A/3A Schools advance to State in Sight-reading only if they receive a Division I rating for their Large Ensemble concert performance at the Region level, no matter the Sight-reading rating.
5. 4A/5A/6A Schools advance to State in Sight-reading only if they receive a I rating for their Large Ensemble concert performances as well as a I or II rating in Sight-Reading at the Region level.
6. Large Ensembles that do not sight-read are ineligible for the Sweepstakes award at the State level.
7. Twenty minutes will be allowed for sight-reading which will immediately follow the concert performance.
8. TAPPS Music Director provides Three part music SAB for mixed choirs, SSA for treble choirs, and TTB for tenor-bass choirs at the Region and State Level

**D. SMALL ENSEMBLE**

1. The Small Ensemble will consist of 3-20 members.
  - a. Ensembles with 7 or fewer members may not have a director.
  - b. Ensembles with 8-20 members may have a director.
2. Eight minutes maximum will be allowed for set up and performance.
3. Small Ensembles must perform one selection from the UIL PML from memory.
4. 1A/2A/3A Small Ensembles must perform from a **Class** 1, 2, or 3 selection from the current ensemble UIL PML (171, 172, or 179) or perform **Grade** I, II, III, IV, or V selections taken from the current chorus UIL PML (931, 933, or 935) to advance to State.
5. 4A/5A Small Ensembles must perform from memory a **Class** 1 or 2 selection from the current ensemble UIL PML (171, 172, or 179) or perform **Grade** II, III, IV, or V selections taken from the current chorus UIL PML (931, 933, or 935) to advance to State. A Class 3 selection from an ensemble UIL PML or **Grade** I selection taken from a chorus UIL PML may be performed at Region, but will not advance to State.
6. Live accompaniment is preferred. Taped accompaniment may be used, but ensemble must supply their own playback equipment. The accompaniment track is the only acceptable track to be used. Ensembles may NOT use the tracks with added vocals.
7. Small Ensembles must provide one original score with measures numbers for the judge.

**E. SOLO**

1. Eight minutes maximum will be allowed for set up and performance.

2. Each soloist will perform one selection from memory taken from the current UIL PML (107 female, 109 male)
3. 1A/2A/3A Solo music must be Class 1 or Class 2 to advance to State. Any student may perform a Class 3 solo at Region but will not advance to State.
4. 4A/5A Solo music must be Class 1 to advance to State. Any student may perform a Class 2 or Class 3 solo at Region but will not advance to State.
5. Live accompaniment is preferred. Taped accompaniment may be used, but the student must supply own playback equipment. The accompaniment track is the only acceptable track to be used. Ensembles may NOT use the tracks with added vocals.
6. Solos must provide one original score with measures numbered for the judge.

**F. POP/SHOW ENSEMBLE.**

1. The ensemble will consist of a minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 members.
  - a. 1A/2A/3A Ensembles may have a director.
  - b. 4A/5A Ensembles with 7 or fewer members may not have a director.
  - c. 4A/5A Ensembles with 8-20 members may have a director.
2. An instrumental back-up ensemble may consist of up to 8 musicians. This must contain only high school students, with the exception of the pianist who may be a school-approved adult.
3. Live accompaniment is preferred. Taped accompaniment may be used, but ensemble must supply their own playback equipment. The accompaniment track is the only acceptable track to be used. Ensembles may NOT use the tracks with added vocals.
4. This ensemble will perform two selections of the director's choice from memory.
5. Three original scores of each piece with measures numbered must be provided at State and 1 or 3 original scores must be provided at Region (confirm this with your Region Coordinator) for the judges. Individual schools will accept the responsibility for the legality of their chosen program arrangements.
6. Fifteen minutes maximum will be allowed for set up, tuning and performance.
7. This category includes secular, pop, jazz, sacred, Broadway, etc. selections which are in good taste and of high quality but not on the UIL PML.
8. Movement, choreography, or costumes would be appropriate in this category and will be evaluated by the judges.
9. Pop/Show ensembles may not use electronic vocal enhancement or microphones. These ensembles must be judged on vocal quality.

**G. SACRED ENSEMBLE.**

1. The Ensemble will consist of a minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 members.
  - a. 1A/2A/3A Ensembles may have a director.
  - b. 4A/5A Ensembles with 7 or fewer members may not have a director.
  - c. 4A/5A Ensembles with 8-20 members may have a director.
2. An instrumental back-up ensemble may consist of up to 8 musicians. This must contain only high school students, with the exception of the pianist who may be a school-approved adult.

3. Live accompaniment is preferred. Taped accompaniment may be used, but ensemble must supply their own playback equipment. The accompaniment track is the only acceptable track to be used. Ensembles may NOT use the tracks with added vocals.
4. This Ensemble will perform two selections of the director's choice from memory.
5. Three original scores of each piece with measures numbered must be provided at State and 1 or 3 original scores must be provided at Region (confirm this with your Region Coordinator) for the judges. Individual schools will accept the responsibility for the legality of their chosen program arrangements.
6. Fifteen minutes maximum will be allowed for set up, tuning and performance.
7. This category includes religious, gospel, contemporary Christian, etc., selections which are of high quality not on the UIL PML.
8. Sacred ensembles may not use electronic vocal enhancement or microphones. These ensembles must be judged on vocal quality.