Effective May 1, 2019 TEA has amended 19 TAC Chapter 76, Extracurricular Activities, Subchapter AA, Commissioner’s Rules, §76.1001, Extracurricular Activities

Summary: This amendment allows a student who has not passed all his or her classes but who is enrolled in a state-approved music course that participates in University Interscholastic League (UIL) Concert and Sight-reading Evaluation to perform with the ensemble during the UIL evaluation performance.

Adopted Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 76, Extracurricular Activities, Subchapter AA, Commissioner’s Rules, §76.1001, Extracurricular Activities

Does this mean that all academically ineligible students must now be permitted to participate in UIL music concert and sight-reading evaluation? No. This amendment simply gives school districts the authority to allow an academically ineligible student who is enrolled in a state-approved music course that requires public performance to participate in UIL concert and sight-reading evaluation.

Does this mean that academically ineligible students can participate in other music performances such a pre-UIL performance, a non-UIL concert, or any other public performance? Not unless the performance meets the requirements of the exception listed in 19 TAC Chapter 76, Extracurricular Activities, Subchapter AA, Commissioner’s Rules, §76.1001(a)(2), definition of an extracurricular activity in TEA/UIL Side by Side.

With the exception of sixth graders UIL has no class enrollment requirement for participation in music concert and sight-reading evaluation. Does this mean that a school district can allow an academically ineligible student who is not enrolled in a state-approved music course to participate in UIL music concert and sight-reading evaluation? No. This amendment requires that an ineligible student be enrolled in a state-approved music course that requires public performance.

Why does this exception exist for UIL music concert and sight-reading evaluation and not for other UIL contests, competitions, or events? UIL concert and sight-reading evaluation is the only UIL event – music, athletics, or academics - that has no advancement component (playoff system or culminating state event) and the participating groups are not ranked against each other. Additionally, each band, choir, or orchestra is simply given a rating on their performance, which is the culmination of a long-term teaching and learning project associated with a state-approved music course.