

TSSEC - Director FAQ (updated 2020)

Who is eligible to enter TSSEC? All solos and ensembles that receive a Division 1 rating on a Class 1 selection at the region solo and small ensemble contest during the current school year may enter TSSEC. All solos must be certified as being performed by memory at the region contest. **Exception:** solos on the PML no-memory list: <http://www.dev.uiltexas.org/pml/>

When and where is the 2020 TSSEC?

- **The 1A/2A/3A/4A** Contest (all events) will be held at Hendrickson High School in Pflugerville ISD on Saturday, May 30th and Monday, June 1st.
- The **5A/6A** Woodwind/Brass Contest will be held at Pflugerville High School in Pflugerville ISD on Saturday, May 30th and Monday, June 1st.
- The 5A/6A Voice/Strings/Piano/Guitar Contest will be held at Weiss High School in Pflugerville ISD on Saturday, May 30th and Monday, June 1st.
- The **5A/6A** Percussion Contest will be held at Connally High School in Pflugerville ISD on Saturday, May 30th and Monday, June 1st.
- The **5A/6A** Twirling Contest will be held at Pflugerville High School in Pflugerville ISD on Saturday, May 30th and Monday, June 1st.

How do I enter my students? The entry portal is open for on-time entries from April 1 to April 15. Entries are to be made at: <http://www.texasmusicforms.com>. Click “TSSEC Enter Students” to submit entries.

How do I pay our school’s entry fees? This information will be shown on your invoice when you complete your entries.

How much are the entry fees? TSSEC entry fees are \$20 per solo and \$10 per ensemble member entered by the April 15 deadline. Dorian (Vanco) assesses a license fee per music program for maintenance of the entry and scheduling system.

When will I know our performance times? The master schedule will be released on or before May 1st.

May I request a specific day or performance time for my students? When submitting entries you will choose an available performance day, and either morning or afternoon for each event. On-time entries (entries made by April 15) are guaranteed to be scheduled on the half day (morning or afternoon) that you select for each event at the time of registration. Requests for a specific time are not permitted. Be advised that each half day (morning and afternoon) will be closed when capacity is reached for a division (band, choir, or orchestra). Due to the resources required for an event of this magnitude we must try to create balance between the two days (Saturday and Monday). Therefore, if having your students perform on a specific day is important you should complete your entries as early as possible in April in order to get the day you prefer. Day closures can happen within the first few days that the entry system is open!

How can I best plan for assigning accompanists in the system? Please understand the more students assigned to an accompanist, the more difficult it will be to schedule those students without causing logistical problems for the contest. Due to building locations this can be especially problematic if an accompanist is playing for any combination of band, choir, and orchestra students. Do not assign an accompanist to play for 5A/6A band students AND 5A/6A choir/orchestra students on the same day. Careful planning in this area aids in keeping the contest running on schedule. **No accompanist should be assigned to more than twelve instrumental events in the morning and fifteen instrumental events in the afternoon. No accompanist should be assigned to more than twenty vocal events in the morning and twenty-five vocal events in the afternoon.**

After the schedule is released may I request a performance time or day change?

Requests for changes to performance times and/or performance day may be sent to music@uiltexas.org after the master schedule is released, around May 1. These requests will be processed up until 10 days prior to the contest, based on available times. There is no guarantee that all requests can be honored.

I left an event out of my entries. May I still enter the event? These entries are called “add-ons”. Directors may enter “add-ons” directly into the new system through May 1st. “Add-ons” will be scheduled as space becomes available and will receive priority over a school’s band, choir, or orchestra program that made no entries prior to April 15th. However, “add-ons” are not scheduled until after all entries that met the April 15th deadline are scheduled. “Add-ons” should constitute no more than ten percent of the total number of entries for a band, choir, or orchestra program. Each “add-on” event will be assessed a \$10 late fee in addition to the on-time entry fee.

I did not submit any of my entries prior to the April 15 deadline. May I still enter my students? Directors may submit late entries into the system through May 1st. Late entries will be scheduled only if space becomes available. Each late entry will be assessed a \$20 late fee in addition to the on-time entry fee.

May I substitute students in an ensemble? Up to 50 percent of any ensemble at TSSEC may consist of students who were not in the group that qualified at the region contest. Those name substitutions should be made when the event entry is submitted. Directors may update names in the new system through May 20th.

May a solo or ensemble perform a different selection at TSSEC from the one performed at the region contest? Yes, provided that the new piece is on the Class 1 list from the same event code that qualified at the region contest. The deadline for making repertoire changes on the adjudication sheets is May 20th. Directors may update titles in the new system through the deadline.

What types of awards are given? Division I rating for a solo receives a gold medal; Division II rating for a solo receives a silver medal; Division I rating for an ensemble receives a bronze medal. Each solo judge may designate exemplary soloists as Outstanding Performers. The Outstanding Performer Award represents the attainment by an individual of superior musicianship as demonstrated in the exacting competition of the Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest.