

2025 Trombone Applicant Guide

How to apply:

To apply for the orchestra program, applicants will upload a video audition consisting of the components listed below. Audition videos should have the applicant's entire playing area shown (including hands, face, torso, instrument, etc.) You may upload each element separately, but each video should be unedited. Please label each file with the component name (i.e. Scale).

1. 2-Octave Chromatic Scale starting on B-flat

- Higher scores will be given to scales played accurately and evenly throughout the whole range, regardless of tempo
- Playing with or without vibrato will have no effect on applicant's score

2. Solo Piece of Applicant's Choice

- Work of your choice that demonstrates overall musicianship, especially your ability to play lyrically as the Selected Excerpt (below) will demonstrate technical ability
- May be a solo, etude, All-State etude, or excerpt from an orchestral work
- Maximum of one minute in length
- Must provide a copy of the selected work for the audition
- Does NOT have to be memorized
- No accompaniment

3. Selected Excerpt

- *Selected Studies for Trombone* by Voxman, Rubank
Pg. 17, Allegretto affettuoso, mm. 1-36 (no repeats)

Video Recording Guidelines and Tips:

- Do NOT introduce yourself or give any other identifying information in your video recording.
- If possible, position your camera at eye level.
- Choose a neat, neutral background for your video.
- Eliminate any moving/noisy elements in the room that might distract from your audition (e.g., circulating fan).
- Face the primary light source in the room (e.g., a window) to ensure you are well lit from the front. The darkest part of the room should be behind you.
- Wear clothing appropriate for an audition:
 - **DO** wear comfortable, neutral attire. A simple, solid-colored shirt, jeans, pants, or a long skirt are recommended.
 - **DON'T** wear garments that distract from your performance. Examples of inappropriate audition attire include garments that are graphic, shredded, torn, too revealing, or too tight (e.g., pajamas, crop tops, ripped jeans, shirts with characters/logos/words, or short shorts/skirts).

Evaluation Criteria:

PLEASE NOTE: OSAI audition scores may be used to determine chamber music or orchestra part assignments, so prepare for the OSAI audition accordingly.

Scale – 10%

Solo – 15%

Excerpt – 25%

Overall tone, intonation, technique, and rhythm – 50%

[Read general information about our evaluation procedures here.](#)

Trombone

Allegretto affettuoso

The musical score is written for Trombone and consists of ten staves. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo and mood are marked "Allegretto affettuoso". The score includes various dynamic markings and articulations:

- Staff 1: *pp* (pianissimo)
- Staff 2: *f* (forte)
- Staff 3: *p* (piano) and *f* (forte)
- Staff 4: *cresc.* (crescendo) and *f* (forte)
- Staff 5: *smorz.* (diminuendo) and *pp* (pianissimo)
- Staff 6: *p cresc.* (piano crescendo)
- Staff 7: *f p* (forte piano) and *f cresc.* (forte crescendo)
- Staff 8: *rinf.* (rinfacciato) and *f* (forte)
- Staff 9: *smorz. e rit.* (diminuendo e ritardando)

The music is characterized by a consistent eighth-note rhythmic pattern with accents and slurs. The dynamics range from very soft (*pp*) to very loud (*f*), with frequent changes in volume and articulation throughout the piece.