Enrollment Information

Admission to the UCBWE is by audition only. Auditions are open to everyone – UC Berkeley students, affiliates, and unaffiliated community members alike. Admitted students are expected to enroll in Wind Ensemble (Music 142) for credit; exceptions will be reviewed on an individual basis. Regular attendance at weekly rehearsals and participation in all public performances is required.

Wind Ensemble I & II

**Wind Ensemble I** meets every fall and spring semester. Membership is attained by audition only. Spring auditions are generally waived for those who are admitted in the fall. WE I performs at least two evening and/or weekend concerts in Hertz Hall each semester, as well as one noon concert. WE I members may enroll in WE II on a secondary instrument with instructor approval. Students who audition for WE I but are not accepted are encouraged to enroll in WE II.

**Wind Ensemble II** meets only during each spring semester. While membership is open to all, a "no-cut" audition is still required for part assignments. You may audition for Wind Ensemble I & II simultaneously. WE II performs at least two evening and/or weekend concerts in Hertz Hall.

Audition Information

**Auditions take place at the beginning of each semester.** Visit the bulletin board outside of 43 César Chavez Student Center to schedule your audition. The easiest access is via the double-doors on the northwest corner of CCSC, which are directly across from Strawberry Creek, furthest away from Sather Gate.

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<th>Audition Requirements</th>
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<td>✓ 4 or more chromatically adjacent major scales of your choice (e.g. Bb, B, C, Db) in any rhythm and range you choose. Additional octaves and greater speed will improve your score if performed well.</td>
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<td>✓ 1 or more minor scale(s) of your choice.</td>
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<td>✓ A chromatic scale through the practical range of your instrument (at least one octave).</td>
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<td>✓ 1-3 minutes of prepared repertoire (etudes, excerpts, etc.) that you feel best showcases your technical and expressive capabilities. More than one piece may be performed, but please do not exceed a combined total of three minutes. <strong>Please bring a second copy to give to the director.</strong></td>
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<td>✓ Sight-reading (materials provided in the audition). You will have roughly half a minute to study a brief passage of mild-moderate difficulty and then perform it as best you can.</td>
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Audition Location

43B Cesar Chavez Student Center

Audition Results

Results will be posted once all scheduled auditions have been heard, either on the evening of the last audition day, or the next day. Results will not be available at the conclusion of your audition.

Frequently Asked Questions

I play percussion. What should I do?
From among snare drum, timpani, and marimba, select two (2) instruments and prepare one brief piece on each. (In place of marimba, you may select xylophone, vibraphone, or glockenspiel.) Scales and/or sight-reading may be requested on the instruments you selected or waived altogether.

Can I audition on more than one instrument?
Absolutely! You can sign up for a double-slot, or two separate slots on different days. Please inform the director at your first audition if you will be (or are considering) auditioning on a second instrument, and communicate any preferences at that time.

Can you recommend any audition repertoire?
We don’t have any specific recommendations, but All-State Band etudes are a good place to start. You can also use etudes from method books or even internet searches. Aim to exhibit both your technical and lyrical skills when selecting repertoire. Always strive for outstanding tone, pitch accuracy, rhythmic vitality, and musicality. Select repertoire that shows what you can do rather than what you cannot do.

What should I bring to the audition?
A second copy of your prepared repertoire along with your instrument or sticks/mallets and needed accessories.

Can I warm-up before the audition?
Yes, there are practice rooms nearby. Please arrive early enough to still be on time to your scheduled audition.

I play clarinet or saxophone, but am interested in playing a different type than the one I own.
Play your audition on the type you have, and indicate during the audition if you would like to be considered for a different one (e.g. bari sax or bass clarinet).

I have additional questions. Who should I contact?
Email Matthew Sadowski, Director of Bands, at msadowski@berkeley.edu. Please include as much information as possible so that your question(s) can be accurately and completely answered.

Thank you for your interest!