

2026



**ERIE COUNTY FAIR
PEPSI ALL-STAR BAND
AUDITION PACKET**

2026 ERIE COUNTY FAIR ALL-STAR BAND

APPLICATION & AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

All Applicants: Review the tentative schedule on page three of this packet prior to submitting your application and audition video. ALL rehearsals and performances are **mandatory** unless reasonable accommodations can be made with advanced notice.

Applicants with multiple anticipated absences may not be considered for this year's ensemble. Attendance will be closely monitored; excessive absence will result in loss of benefits and performance opportunities, and/or dismissal from the ensemble.

Woodwinds & Brass: You must submit a video audition with the following content:

1. State your name, instrument, school name, director's name, and current grade as of Spring 2026.
2. Perform any excerpt of music of your choice that best showcases your abilities. Possible options include: a section from an All-state solo; a portion of repertoire from your school's band; an etude or exercise from a warm-up book; a solo transcription you are working on. *Video should be no longer than 2 minutes in length.*
3. *For Brass Instruments:* in addition to your excerpt, please play a concert Bb major scale, going as high as you comfortably can.
4. Save the video file with the file named as INSTRUMENT, FIRST NAME LAST NAME (example: Piccolo, Jamie Smith)
5. Upload the video once you complete the application form.

Percussion: You must submit a video audition with the following content:

1. State your name, instrument, school name, director's name, and current grade as of Spring 2026.
2. Perform any excerpt of music of your choice that best showcases your abilities. Possible options include: a section from an All-state solo; a portion of repertoire from your school's band; an etude or exercise from a warm-up book; a solo transcription you are working on. *Video should be no longer than 2 minutes in length.*
3. In addition to your excerpt, please state any and all experience on other marching percussion you may have.
4. Save the video file with the file named as INSTRUMENT, FIRST NAME LAST NAME (example: Snare Drum, Cameron Griffith)
5. Upload the video once you complete the application form.

If you are accepted, please be aware that you are assigned to an instrument based on the skill levels and needs within the section. Be prepared to provide first, second, and third choice options on your application.

Color Guard:

You must submit a video audition with the following content:

1. State your name, instrument, school name, director's name, and current grade as of Spring 2026.
2. Briefly describe your experience and/or reason for your interest in applying.
3. If possible, perform a brief demonstration of your skills on flag, rifle, sabre, or dance.
4. Save the video file with the file named as INSTRUMENT, FIRST NAME LAST NAME (example: Color Guard, Tiffany Allen)

2026 TENTATIVE SUMMER SCHEDULE

Rehearsal & Orientation	June 1	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	June 8	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	June 15	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	June 18	Thursday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	June 22	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Color Guard Rehearsal	June 29	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Performance – East Aurora Parade	July 3	Friday	Evening, Time TBD	Bus provided
Rehearsal	July 6	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Performance – Queen of Heaven Carnival	July 10	Saturday	Time TBD	Bus provided
Rehearsal	July 13	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	July 20	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Performance – Lions Club FB Game	July 22	Wednesday	Evening	Bus provided
Rehearsal	July 27	Monday	5:30 – 8:30	
Rehearsal	August 3	Sunday	5:30 – 8:30	
Performance – Bisons Game	August 7	Friday	Evening, Time TBD	Bus provided
Performance – Eden Cornfest Parade	August 9	Sunday	Time TBD	Bus provided
Rehearsal (IF NEEDED)	August 10	Monday	5:30-8:30	
Erie County Fair - August 12-23				
Opening Ceremonies & Evening Performances	August 12	Wednesday	10-1, 5-8	
Evening Performances	August 13	Thursday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 14	Friday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 15	Saturday	5-8	
Veteran's Ceremony & Evening Performances	August 16	Sunday	10-8	
Evening Performances	August 17	Monday	5-8	
Fair Bear's Birthday & Evening Performances	August 18	Tuesday	2-8	
Evening Performances	August 19	Wednesday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 20	Thursday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 21	Friday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 22	Saturday	5-8	
Evening Performances	August 23	Sunday	5-8	

2026 Schedule Notes:

- Full ensemble rehearsals will be held in the Event Center balcony from **5:30pm to 8:30pm**. If additional Sectional time is needed in July and August, they can be held on Thursdays from 5:30 – 7:00pm with advanced notice.
- We currently have five scheduled summer performances, though more may be added once all local event schedules are released. Advanced and prompt notice will be given if any performances are added.
- The Fair schedule has not been finalized. The above times are an estimate of the hours you may need to be present at the Fairgrounds. This does not mean that you will be performing for the entire duration of your time at the Fair, but performances may be scheduled within these time frames.
- A few Fair days will feature afternoon “pop-up” style performances throughout the Fairgrounds. Those exact dates and times will be determined and announced by our first rehearsal.

2026 BENEFITS

- 12-Day ID (daily Fair admission) for each band member.
- 12 additional single-day Fair admission tickets for family/friends.
- Strates Shows FunCard good for 15 rides on the Midway.
- 12 meal vouchers (\$10 each) to use at 130 different Fair concessions stands.
- Student stipend awarded to graduating seniors, which includes \$25 for each year of participation (i.e. 3 years totaling \$75, 6 years totaling \$150).
- Eligibility to apply for additional Fair scholarships (up to \$1,500 annually). Visit www.ECFair.org/scholarships to learn more.
- Possible media coverage opportunities, including local news and Fair Day Live segments.
- Annual appreciation event/party.
- Pepsi-branded band uniform including shirt and hat.
- Corporate shadow opportunities in areas like Marketing, Ticketing, Concessions, Agriculture, and Entertainment.
- Social media “takeover” opportunities on Fair social media pages.