

234th Army Band Oregon National Guard



Information Packet



Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the 234th Army Band! This packet contains general information concerning Army Bands, military benefits, audition requirements, and answers to some frequently asked questions. If you have additional questions or would like to sit in with the band one day please feel free to contact us using the e-mail provided on our website <http://www.234tharmyband.com>.

Military Benefits

The following is a list of basic Military Benefits. For specific information please contact us using the e-mail provided on our website <http://www.234tharmyband.com>

- Money for Education
 - College Loan Repayment
 - Montgomery GI Bill
- Accelerated Promotion to Specialist/E-4 upon Enlistment
- Professional Line Instruments
- Paid Musical Training
- Healthcare, Dental, and Life insurance at very low rates
- Family Services & Support Groups
- Retirement Savings & Investment Plan

Audition Requirements

Woodwind and Brass

(slight changes depending on specific instrument)

- Part 1: Ceremonial Music
 - Selected Military Music
- Part 2: Prepared Material
 - Perform at least three selections not to exceed five minutes
- Part 3: Music Preparation
 - Perform 3-5 selections with at least 45 minutes preparation
- Part 4: Additional Skills
 - Doubles
 - Vocals
 - Improvisation

Percussion

- Part 1: Ceremonial Music & Concert Literature
 - Selected Military Music
 - Selected Concert Literature
- Part 2: Ensemble Performance – Drum Set
 - At least four selections demonstrating contrasting styles
- Part 3: Music Preparation
 - Perform 3-5 selections with at least 45 minutes preparation (Drum Set, Concert Snare, Marching Snare, Mallets)
- Part 4: Additional Skills
 - Timpani
 - Latin Percussion
 - Mallets
 - Vocals

Electric Guitar and Electric Bass

- Part 1: Ceremonial Music
- Part 2: Prepared Music
 - At least three selections demonstrating contrasting styles
- Part 3: Music Preparation
 - Perform 3-5 selections with at least 35 minutes and no more than 45 minutes preparation
- Part 4: Additional Skills
 - Doubles
 - Vocals
 - Music Production

Keyboard

- Part 1: Ceremonial Music
- Part 2: Solo Piano
 - One piece suitable for protocol job performance, prepared either from a lead sheet or ear
- Part 3: Prepared Music
 - Perform at least three selections demonstrating contrasting styles
- Part 4: Music Preparation
 - Perform 3-5 selections with at least 35 minutes and no more than 45 minutes preparation
- Part 5: Additional Skills
 - Doubles
 - Vocals
 - Music Production

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can join an Army Band?

Any musician, male or female, who meets Army enlistment standards and can pass a pre-arranged audition with the 234th Army Band.

How well do I have to play?

The main interest is in your demonstrated musicianship, (i.e. tone, technique, rhythm, and intonation), ability to prepare music, and playing standard Army repertoire.

Where do I audition?

You will take the audition in a 234th practice room located in our rehearsal area in Pembroke Pines Florida.

If I audition do I have to enlist?

NO! You are under no obligation to enlist.

What happens if I fail the audition?

If you fail the audition you will be told in which areas you need improvement and how you can correct them. You'll also be informed that you may return at a later date to re-audition.

What rank will I be?

Those who pass the audition may enlist at the advanced pay grade of E-4/Specialist.

Why are Army musicians enlisted at an advanced pay grade?

The Army considers a musician's instrumental proficiency a Civilian Acquired Skill. This means that prior to enlistment you had many years of training and practice to learn this skill.

What other benefits can I receive?

As members of the National Guard you qualify for Tuition Assistance, the Montgomery GI Bill, College Loan Payback Program, healthcare, dental, and life insurance at very low rates, exchange and commissary privileges, VA home loans, and more.

How many days a week does the 13th Army Band work?

The 234th usually meets weekly in the evenings. Our performances such as the ones listed on the website occur throughout the year.

Do I have to attend Basic Training?

Yes, all Army musicians are required to attend Basic Training.

How long is Army Basic Training?

Army Basic Training is approximately nine weeks long.

Do I have to attend any additional training?

Yes, this portion is called Advanced Individual Training (AIT) held in Norfolk VA at the Armed Forces School of Music. AIT and Basic Training do not have to be consecutive; they can be completed as much as 12 months apart.

How much will I be paid for Basic Training?

This usually varies anywhere from \$3,000.00 to almost \$4,000.00.

Will I be paid for the training at the School of Music?

Yes, including transportation to and from.