

2025
Oklahoma State University
COWBOY MARCHING BAND
Membership Handbook



*121 Years
of Excellence*

**Greenwood School of Music
University Bands
102 Greenwood School of Music
Stillwater, OK 74078-4077
(405) 744-6135
cmb.okstate.edu**

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EXCELLENCE THROUGH

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Oklahoma State University

Cowboy Marching Band

The Oklahoma State University band staff offers to all of our new and returning members our sincerest welcome! We look forward to creating a new and exciting chapter in the history of ***The Cowboy Marching Band***. With your hard work and dedication, we will not only carry on the tradition of excellence that has been the foundation of the Cowboy Marching Band's success, but also work to raise the standard of excellence, helping to create a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Your first responsibility is to familiarize yourself with the policies and procedures of The Cowboy Marching Band. This handbook contains information concerning the hierarchy of band staff personnel, attendance and grading, rehearsal policies, rain procedures, game day procedures, trip policies, etc.

Legacies are built on a foundation of traditions. These traditions become **reality** through **pride** and **involvement**. It is the responsibility of every member of The Cowboy Marching Band to **honor**, **uphold**, and **build upon** the traditions of this outstanding organization.

The Cowboy Code

- We end the day knowing we gave it everything we had
- We dream as big as the sky
- We know challenges come with pain, but pain will not win
- We have a passion to do what's right, even when it's hard
- We stand for what matters, even if we stand alone
- We finish what we start
- We know that being a Cowboy isn't in our clothes, it's in our character

LEADERSHIP

Oklahoma State University Band Faculty and Staff

Dr. Bradley Genevro
Director of Bands

Prof. Allan F. Goodwin
Associate Director of Bands and
Director of the Cowboy Marching Band

Wayne Bovenschen
Director of Percussion

Dianne Holba
Administrative Assistant, OSU Bands

Tori Williamson
Color Guard Instructor

Aly Akers
Twirling Coach

Chuck Lester
Announcer

Robin Herrod
Photographer

Gaylin Washam
Social Media Coordinator

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Mason Martinez (returning)
Ashlynn Canler

Tia Chernow
Gabe Cowles

Director of Bands (Dr. Genevro) is responsible for the entire band program at Oklahoma State University, conducts the Wind Ensemble, and oversees the wind band conducting program.

Associate Director of Bands (Prof. Goodwin) is responsible for The Cowboy Marching Band and its auxiliary units, conducts the Symphonic Band, and teaches courses in conducting and instrumental music education.

Assistant Director of Bands (TBD), is the assistant director of The Cowboy Marching Band and its auxiliary units, conducts the Concert Band, the Spirit Band (basketball and wrestling), and teaches courses in instrumental music education and marching band methods.

Band Faculty and Staff includes the Band Directors, Director of Percussion, Color Guard Instructor, Announcer, Photographer, Social Media Coordinator and Graduate Teaching Assistants. These individuals are considered Band Staff when concerned with any information on rules and regulations that pertain to the orderly operation of the band program.

Graduate Teaching Assistants assist the directors in all aspects of the band program as they work towards advanced degrees in music.

Drum Majors are selected by The Cowboy Marching Band faculty through rigorous auditions each Spring prior to their Fall appointment. These are the primary conductors of the ensemble, oversee the remainder of the student leadership staff, and work to promote good band spirit and morale. In addition, they are integral in all aspects of the performance of The Cowboy Marching Band during games, pep band events, and work closely with the faculty in the band's day to day and game-day operations.

Section Leaders are selected by the band faculty and staff via interview/audition and serve as the primary musical, visual and behavioral examples for their sections. These individuals oversee music and marching performance standards in their assigned sections and are directly responsible for the conduct of their sections at all times. Section leaders serve as the liaisons between the staff and membership, manage rehearsal etiquette, uniforms, and maintain lines of critical communication.

Color Guard and Drum Captains are selected by the directors of The Cowboy Marching Band and the Color Guard Instructor and Director of Percussion. They are responsible for teaching/reinforcing fundamentals and running sectionals, as well as ensuring that all members in the color guard and drumline understand their individual responsibilities both on and off the field.

Support Staff and Chapter Presidents, specifically Music Librarians, Logistics Manager(s) and the Kappa Kappa Psi (KKΨ) and Tau Beta Sigma (TBΣ) student chapter presidents assist the band faculty and staff with all issues pertaining to the organization as well as serving and promoting esprit de corps (the morale of the ensemble).

2025 COWBOY MARCHING BAND STUDENT LEADERSHIP

DRUM MAJOR

Grace Fenstad
AJ Genevro
Megan Kraus
Bryce White

FLUTE

Isabella Trevino
Cristian Garcia

CLARINET

Angelina Jacobson
Eric Renner

SINGLE REED

Carson Pitts

SAXOPHONE

Jantz Brandon (Alto)
Emma Nair (Tenor)
Madeline Naugle (Alto)

TRUMPET

Koby Goree
Hayden Martens
Nathan Varghese

MELLOPHONE

Katelynn Biggs
Charlie Harris

TROMBONE

Jeremy Black
Peyton Norton

BARITONE

Brady Lawhorn
Mitchell Robinson

TUBA

Luke Matthews
Brysun Paddock

COLOR GUARD

Savannah McClure (Captain)
Veronica Brewer (Section Leader)
Kaitlyn Delaney (Section Leader)

PERCUSSION

Conner Sigrist (Drum Captain)
Stephen Whiting (Tenors)
Corynn Lawless (Bass Drum)
Lauryn Field (Cymbal)
Alyssa Durham (Front Ensemble)

LOGISTICS

Haylie Williamson

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sarah Burks
Sarah Johnson
Jade Taylor
Kyra White

Please join us in congratulating the Cowboy Marching Band student leadership for 2025-2026. Thank you to everyone who auditioned to be a part of this group. Your support of the CMB is tremendous!



VALUES

The Cowboy Marching Band's success is reliant on the dedication of its members to the organization, its traditions and its future. As an integral part of the ensemble, certain obligations come with membership in the band. These obligations are core values of The Cowboy Marching Band.

The **Core Values** of our organization include:

- Upholding the Cowboy Code
- Maintaining a cooperative attitude
- Focusing consistently on CMB process and procedures
- Determining our legacy with each CMB public performance
- Making every event memorable through exemplary CMB performances
- Recognizing/acknowledging improvement
- Spreading high-energy university spirit and pride
- Upholding CMB and University traditions
- Fostering a sense community within the CMB
- Maintaining a connection with the Stillwater and University communities
- Protecting the experience of each individual in the CMB
- Cultivating the leadership potential of each member of the CMB
- Optimizing personal growth and development
- Collaborating with your peers
- Balancing fun and professionalism

It's a **STATE** of mind!

Cowboy Marching Band Leadership Mission Statement

Through tradition, artistic excellence, and inclusivity, the Cowboy Marching Band enhances campus culture by supporting OSU Athletics, the Stillwater community, and the state of Oklahoma as a whole.

PHILOSOPHY

One of the greatest assets of a comprehensive band program is that it nourishes the creative spirit at the level of each player's ability and interest. Regardless of major or experience, there is a place for you in the Cowboy Marching Band!

The Cowboy Marching Band adheres to the same philosophies, objectives and goals of the university, the College of Arts and Sciences and School of Music it represents.

As a community dedicated to learning, the university affirms its commitment to:

- **Integrity**
- **Objectivity**
- **Diversity**
- **Freedom of Inquiry**
- **Creativity**
- **Civility**

The Cowboy Marching Band is dedicated to the education of the whole student within the university. Through participation in the CMB, members receive additional opportunities to cultivate the emotional, spiritual, social, and cultural aspects of a mature individual.

Additionally, The Cowboy Marching Band is established to:

- Foster goodwill within the greater community
- Represent Oklahoma State University locally, nationally, and internationally
- Nurture pride in the university through musical and visual excellence
- Honor our Alma Mater by remaining fiercely loyal to our traditions

Membership in the CMB includes woodwinds, brasses, percussion, color guard, drum major(s), twirler(s), and logistics staff. Membership is open to students of all majors. Band members receive one credit for participation. **All students must be enrolled in Music 2610, 3610 or 5610.**

EXPECTATIONS

Scheduling and Enrollment

- **Every member of The CMB must be enrolled in Music 2610, 3610 or 5610.**
- Every student enrolled in Music 2610, 3610 or 5610 receives a letter grade that becomes a part of their permanent university record.
 - The online schedule lists the class meeting time as 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM M-W-F.
 - **CMB Rehearsal actually takes place from 3:45 PM to 5:45 PM M-W-F.**
 - 3:15-3:45 PM and 5:45-6:00 PM should be reserved for sectionals as called by student leadership.
- The full CMB rehearses at Hedge Field – the grass field east of Gallagher-Iba Arena (GIA).
- Game-day rehearsal locations are subject to change. Advance notice will be given for any change in rehearsal venue.

Attendance and Grading Policy

The expectation of the course is that all students are present at all rehearsals and performances. Every member is accountable to one another to achieve objectives during rehearsals and performances. Rehearsal absences affect every member of the ensemble and mar the effectiveness of the rehearsal.

Performance absences affect the ability of other members to perform at a high level and impact the ability of the band to perform to university and School of Music standards in very public settings. Remember, it is fun to be good, and we can only improve at maximum efficiency with each individual present at all rehearsals and performances. In this way, we all sacrifice for the betterment of the group.

- **Rehearsal:**
 - Students are required to attend all rehearsals.
 - Students are required to be punctual for rehearsals.
 - Students are considered late if they are not in assigned warm-up areas at the beginning of rehearsal (winds in attendance block, percussion/guard in music sectional blocks).
 - **Three unexcused tardies will equal one unexcused absence.**
 - Failure to have all materials is considered an unexcused absence.
 - Failure to have an instrument/equipment in working order (unless cleared by the director or GTA in advance) will result in an unexcused absence.
 - Unexcused absences will result in the final grade being lowered one letter per absence.
 - Students are expected to notify faculty and staff of their absence before rehearsal no less than 24 hours prior to the start of rehearsal (this includes illness). Last-minute absence notification may lead to absences being considered unexcused.
- **Performance:**
 - Students are required to be punctual for performances and game-day spirit events.
 - An unexcused absence from a performance may result in an automatic failing grade and/or dismissal from the group.

- **Reporting Absences:**

- The only acceptable means of reporting an absence is by 1) emailing the CMB attendance email (osubandsatt@okstate.edu) and 2) notifying your section leader **personally** no less than 30 minutes prior to the start of rehearsal/sectional.
- All attendance records will be maintained by the director and the graduate assistants. There is no alternative to this procedure.
- An absence shall be excused only if it has been logged and approved by the director **well in advance** (i.e. class conflict) or immediately following (i.e. personal emergency or illness) a rehearsal or performance.
- Potential absences should always be discussed directly with the director at the beginning of the semester or **as early as possible**. Final classification of absences will at the sole discretion of the Director of The Cowboy Marching Band.
- The chart below reflects the MAXIMUM grade you can receive relative to the number of unexcused absences that you have. This is the grade you will receive for the course *assuming* that you also participate in all sectionals, memorize music as directed, and meet all participation requirements and expectations of the organization.

▪ 1 unexcused absence	=	<i>a maximum grade of B</i>
▪ 2 unexcused absences	=	<i>a maximum grade of C</i>
▪ 3 unexcused absences	=	<i>a maximum grade of D</i>
▪ 4 unexcused absences	=	<i>a maximum grade of F</i>
- As a reflection of its importance, performance attendance is considered on a separate scale. **An unexcused absence from a performance will result in an automatic grade of F, dismissal from the ensemble and loss of scholarship.**
- If, at any time, a student fails to meet the standards of attendance, rehearsal or performance for the ensemble, the student may be removed and replaced at the discretion of the Director.

- **Excused Absences:**

- **Personal illness** - Rehearsals or performances missed as a result of personal illness will be excused **only** with a physician's note. Unless symptoms are emergent, illness-related absences should be communicated no less than 24 hours in advance.
- Students have one calendar week from the date of the absence to submit physician's notes or other documentation in order for them to be considered as an excuse.
- **Illness in the immediate family** - Rehearsals or performances missed as a result of an illness to an immediate family member may be excused at the discretion of the director with appropriate advanced communication.
- **Personal emergencies** will be excused at the discretion of the director.
- **Exams/Tests in other courses**. You must submit proof of this conflict in the form of an email from the faculty member proctoring the exam no less than 24 hours in advance.
- **Death in the immediate family** will be excused with appropriate advanced communication. Documentation is necessary at the discretion of the band staff.
- **Wedding attendance** will be excused with appropriate advanced communication only if the wedding is in the **immediate family** or being part of the **official wedding party**.
- **Weddings outside of the immediate family or wedding party** will only be excused at the discretion of the director.
- **Auditions** at other universities for graduate positions, performances in another ensemble, or other individual performances must be cleared well in advance and must be approved by the Director of the Cowboy Marching Band.
- Events connected with a student's major will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- All other absences will be considered unexcused.

- **Unexcused absences:**
 - Job conflicts will not be excused.
 - Studying for exams, make-up lessons, etc. will not be excused.
 - Fraternity/Sorority events will not be excused on the day of a performance. Early notification will be required for these absences to be considered.
 - Demands on your time will be announced early enough for you to make the necessary arrangements for you to be at all rehearsals.
 - Should an emergent issue arise, notify a GTA and the attendance email immediately.
- **Preparation:**
 - **STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO MEMORIZE ALL PREGAME AND HALFTIME MUSIC.**
 - **PASS-OFFS FOR MEMORIZED PREGAME MUSIC WILL OCCUR AS NEEDED DURING CAMP.**
 - **HALFTIME MUSIC IS EXPECTED TO BE MEMORIZED THE WEEK REHEARSALS COVERING THAT MUSIC COMMENCE.**
 - **FAILURE TO MEMORIZE ALL MUSIC, AND TO KEEP UP WITH ALL DRILL IN THE UDB APP, MAY RESULT IN A GRADE REDUCTION.**
- **Additional items to consider:**
 - The reputation and quality of the organization depends on faculty, staff and members clearing their personal schedules so all rehearsals and performances can be attended.
 - All attendance matters will be carefully scrutinized by the director, and excessive absences may result in dismissal from the band.
 - The faculty and staff are aware that conflicts arise and will do its best to work with you to resolve them in an efficient and amicable manner.
 - Each band member has a responsibility to represent themselves, The Cowboy Marching Band, and Oklahoma State University in the best way possible. This includes punctuality!
- **Performance Commitments:**
 - In addition to yearly performance commitments at OSU home games, select away games and the homecoming parade, extra performance activities will occur.
 - These may include guest performances, bowl games, recruiting events, spirit band functions, and the Spring Scrimmage in April.
 - ALL MEMBERS are expected to participate in SOME of these extra events so that NO members must participate in ALL these events.
 - Failure to participate in any extra game-day pep band events may result in a lower course grade.
 - **Post-season bowl appearances are required of all CMB members as are all performance activities scheduled for the full CMB.** The faculty and staff appreciate each member's flexibility with post-season bowl game and NCAA Playoff game scheduling. Members will receive information concerning post-season play as soon as it is announced.
 - Required activities are listed on the last page of this handbook, and **attendance at all scheduled events is required for membership. Any member with excessive absences may not be allowed to attend the bowl game.**

Tardiness

Three rehearsal tardies will equal one unexcused absence. If you are not present in your position in the attendance block at 3:45 PM (3:15 PM for percussion), you are considered tardy. Occasionally, students have scheduling problems that may cause tardiness to band. Students with conflicts must speak with the director, as well as with the GTA responsible for attendance. In the case of an emergency, tardies may be waived (with proper documentation) by the director. **Students arriving late must check in with the GTA before engaging in rehearsal.** Students who do not check in with the GTA will be considered absent. No exceptions.

Pre-Season Camp

Each year, the Cowboy Marching Band Pre-Season Camp is held approximately one week prior to the start of Fall classes. Camp schedules are available June 1st and are emailed to new and returning members. A successful camp is the basis for a successful season. Therefore, all CMB members are required to attend camp. Any conflicts or absences must be approved by the CMB Director prior to the opening of camp. Work is not considered an excuse for missing camp. Each member of the CMB relies on every other member to be in camp, preparing to perform at a high level. Students missing all or part of camp risk being written out of pregame and halftime activities and, potentially, removal from the ensemble. This critical expectation protects the experience of every member of the CMB.

Rehearsal Policies

Rehearsal scheduling

- Full Ensemble Rehearsal:
 - Attendance will be taken promptly at 4:00 p.m. Members should plan to arrive 10 minutes prior to the published time so they may prepare for the rehearsal.
- Sectionals:
 - Sectionals begin promptly at 3:30 PM.
 - **Percussion** meet M-W-F at 3:30 PM for staff-led warm up and sectionals.
 - **Color Guard** meets M-W-F at 3:30 PM frequently in order to learn choreography. (as directed by band faculty and staff)
 - **Brasses** and **Woodwinds** meet M-W-F at 3:30 PM as necessary to learn and memorize music (at the discretion of the directors and section leaders).
 - **Sectionals called by section leaders either before or after rehearsal, or on game day mornings are mandatory.**
 - Sectional attendance will still count toward the attendance grade. Section leaders are encouraged to have at least one sectional a week to keep music prepared.

Rehearsal Etiquette

- All students are asked to consistently display a professional attitude.
- Arrive early to rehearsals.
- Never miss a rehearsal.
- Follow the instructions of your staff, drum majors, and section leaders.
- Remain quiet and in position when instructions are being given.
- Be prepared for all rehearsals.
- Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

Rehearsal Expectations

- Each band member is expected to have his or her instrument in working order.
 - Missing or non-operative equipment will be considered an unexcused absence.
 - If you have a problem with your instrument, please see a GTA.
- Members must have the Ultimate Drill Book app (UDB) and the Band App installed on their phones with current drill and music downloaded. Members should keep their phone charged to have music ready on the fly, carrying a portable charger is advised.
- **Smoking, drinking alcohol or partaking of illegal substances directly prior to or during rehearsal is forbidden.**
- Members are to wear athletic shoes with proper support, which allow the ankle to articulate.
 - Please do not wear boots, high tops, sandals, flip-flops, slides, crocs, high heels, or dress shoes to rehearsal.
- Please dress appropriately for both weather and function.
 - Shorts, hats, sunglasses, etc. are appropriate for warm weather rehearsals.
 - Sweats/joggers/leggings are preferable to jeans for cold weather rehearsals.
- All members must remain at rehearsal until dismissed by the faculty/staff after final announcements and the singing of the Oklahoma State University Alma Mater.
- Above all else, we will treat one another with respect under all circumstances.
 - There is **never** a valid excuse for treating another member of the CMB poorly. Members who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary measures which may include removal from the organization.

Inclement Weather

- The Cowboy Marching Band will rehearse regardless of weather conditions.
- Rainy weather
 - In case of rain, it is incorrect to assume that we will not rehearse.
 - A drizzle or mist is not considered rain, and the band will meet at our regular outdoor practice site.
 - The CMB will rehearse outside in the rain unless lightning is present.
 - Consideration will be given to instrument safety. Please bring your instrument to rehearsal in a case to allow for protection from rain.
 - In the case of extreme weather conditions, rehearsals will be held inside.
 - Woodwinds and brasses will meet in the Seretean Center (118 SCPA).
 - Percussion and Color Guard will meet in areas as designated by the faculty/staff.
 - Monitor both **university email** and **Band App** for timely inclement weather plans.

Grading

- **The final grade will be determined by:**
 - Attendance (as stated above)
 - Preparedness for rehearsal (instrument/equipment, music, Ultimate Drill Book App, etc.)
 - Preparedness for performance (uniform/equipment maintenance, memorization, etc.)
 - Individual preparation of music, choreography and drill (evaluated by director and staff)
 - A consistently cooperative and professional attitude in rehearsal and performances.

Game Day Policies

- Be early to all call times.
 - The Cowboy Marching Band uses a zero-tolerance policy regarding tardiness and absences on game day (including game/exhibition-day rehearsals). **If you are late, your grade will be affected.**
- Game day rehearsals are held at a specified location.
 - Precise times will be announced in advance and are subject to change following the weekly game operations meeting.
 - Rehearsal call times may vary week to week, and rehearsals will not be canceled.
- A tardy or absence to the game day rehearsal may result in exclusion from the pre-game and/or halftime show.
 - In this instance, members are still required to be in uniform and in the stands all day.
- **All uniform parts must be clean and wrinkle-free.** Any wrinkling or stains marring the appearance of the uniform may be grounds for dismissal from a performance as an unexcused absence.
- Members of the CMB will only be permitted to eat in uniform in specific instances (wherein the faculty and staff provide food).
 - Uniformed band members are not permitted to visit the concession areas while in uniform (before, during and after the game)
- Sections must sit together in their assigned seating areas.
 - Friends, family, or outside personnel may not sit with the band, unless a previous arrangement with the director has been made.
- Band members will remain in uniform while playing.
- Members should show appropriate respect to ticket holders, game participants and event staff, particularly while in uniform.
 - Do not get involved in altercations with fans during the game.
 - Any issues with fans will be handled by the faculty/staff.
- Following pre-game, all band members must sit or stand in their assigned area (as designated by staff) to support the team.
 - Band members must return to the stands immediately following a performance and should not purchase concession items or meet with family or friends.
- EVERYONE participates in playing/cheering in the stands. Supporting the Cowboys is our primary responsibility.
- Switching instruments or other actions detrimental to the ensemble's performance is unacceptable.
- Inappropriate language or taunts will not be tolerated.
- Cell phone use during the game is prohibited except in the event of an emergency. Please see a staff member or the director for clearance before making a call.
- Band members may use the restroom during the game as needed; however, frequent trips and/or extended time away from the band will NOT be permitted. (Please notify a staff member before leaving the stands for the restroom)
- All band members must be sensitive to the security of the Greenwood School of Music (GSM) and Seretean Center (SCPA).
 - Do not leave valuables unsecured in any room. The School of Music is not responsible for the loss of personal items or valuables left unsecured in these locations.
- The band will perform a post-game performance after every home game. Band members will be dismissed following the performance.

Spirit Days

Friday rehearsals are designated as “**Orange Friday**”. It is a CMB tradition to cover the practice field in orange by wearing orange attire to rehearsal in support OSU Cowboy Football!

Pep Rallies

Every member of The Cowboy Marching band will participate in at least three pep rallies and four game day spirit / tailgating bands. The band will be divided into smaller ensembles for this purpose and rosters will be posted on the BandApp in advance of each event. It is critical that all participants are on time for these community and university engagement events. Attendance will be taken.

Uniform Expectations

Game Days

- All members are expected to wear the following items under the uniform
 - Tall white socks with no visible logos
 - The official, 2024 CMB T-Shirt (no alterations may be made to this shirt for uniformity)
 - Compression shorts or other non-bulky undergarments that allow for movement within the uniform and for members to modestly change clothes (SCPA spaces, buses, etc.).
- Cowboy hats will be always worn in the stands unless otherwise stated by the Director.
- Bandanas (or other non-uniform accessories) are not to be worn in the stands at any time.
- Official CMB caps will be brought to each game and worn only when cowboy hats are removed or when otherwise instructed
- Uniforms will be always worn correctly, jackets and pants zipped, hats on correctly, etc.
- For a professional appearance, uniforms should be worn in their entirety or not at all.

General Uniform Information

- The Cowboy Marching Band will be seen on game days by more than 50,000 ticket-paying spectators, and frequently by a televised audience numbering in the hundreds of thousands.
- The purpose of this information is to ensure the professional appearance of The Cowboy Marching Band and for the care and maintenance of uniforms.
- **The uniform of the CMB is the symbol of respect and professionalism within the Greenwood School of Music and Oklahoma State University Athletics, and should be treated as such under all circumstances.**
- Each member will be sized for and receive a uniform during pre-season camp and will return it at the end of the season.
- Each member is responsible for the maintenance and display of their uniform.

Inspection Procedures (Policies and Penalties)

- If proper care or proper appearance of the uniform is not maintained, the member will not be allowed to march and will receive an unexcused absence.
- All section leaders will perform a visual inspection of their section prior to every marching band performance.
 - Those students found to be in violation of established uniform care / wearing procedures will be reported to the staff and a charge will appear on the members bursar account.

Uniform Guidelines

- Members of the CMB will incur the expense of purchasing designated marching shoes, the CMB travel shirt, CMB cap and CMB t-shirt.
 - **These items will need to be repurchased as dictated by the staff to ensure the uniformity and professional appearance of the CMB.**
- CMB members incur uniform dry-cleaning fee as needed during the season.
- The following guidelines have been established to ensure a uniform, clean-cut appearance of The CMB while in uniform:
 - The uniform will be always worn in its entirety during CMB performances. All parts of the uniform must be worn in order for the member to perform.
 - To ensure uniformity, all parts of the uniform are to be worn when in public (i.e. avoid half uniform when moving to and from call times).
- **Smoking and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages** are strictly prohibited while in uniform or when representing the Cowboy Marching Band in any capacity.
- Use of **abusive, vulgar or derogatory language** while in uniform is prohibited.
- **Pant length** should be addressed immediately after receiving the uniform. The bottom of the pant leg should touch the top of the shoe when standing with no break should in the crease.
- When not being worn, the uniform should be properly aired out and hung on hangers in the garment bag until the next performance.
- Periodic **dry cleaning** of the uniform during the season is encouraged to help keep them in good condition (stains, odor, etc.).
- **Wrinkles** (caused from uniform not being properly hung are considered a major violation.
- While in uniform, do not participate in any activity that could damage the uniform.
 - i.e. sitting on the ground, kneeling on knees, etc.
- Physical activity other than marching should be avoided.
 - i.e. running, displays of affection, etc.
- Long **hair** must be worn up under the hat.
 - Hair must be off the collar (i.e. not visible on the jacket)
 - Specific hair expectations will be routinely discussed.
- **Jewelry**
 - Earrings will not be worn while in uniform.
 - Small studs may be worn if necessary.
- **Cosmetics/Face Paint**
 - **Face paint and glitter should not be worn while in uniform – temporary tattoos may be approved at the discretion of the Director.**
 - Limit the use of cosmetics to avoid damage to the appearance of the uniform.
 - No bright lipstick or nail polish (Color Guard is the only exception to this rule).
- **Headwear**
 - No outside hats or bandanas should be worn with the uniform
 - Please do not wear the CMB Cap backwards
- **Sunglasses**
 - Sunglasses will be permitted in the stands during the game provided that they do not distract from uniform appearance (i.e. avoid bright colors, non- OSU colors, etc.).
 - Sunglasses should not be worn during a performance unless specifically permitted by the director of the CMB (including marching to and from the stadium).
- **CMB Cowboy Hat**
 - The hat should be worn during the pre-game concert, parade, game performances and moving to and from the stands. While sitting in the stands, the hat will be removed and hung around the neck and not placed on the ground.
 - For a professional appearance, the hat should not be worn over the CMB Cap.

- **Half Uniform**

- When specifically instructed to do so, the band may remove cowboy hats and jackets.
 - The jacket and hat will be taken off, the coat hung up, and the hat placed in its box.
 - If there is no place to hang a jacket or box the hat, the coat will be folded inside out, and the hat placed carefully on its top with the brim up.
 - This will be demonstrated via video and during pre-season camp.
 - Should any member not be wearing the appropriate attire under the uniform (i.e. official, 2024 CMB T-Shirt), half uniform will not be possible.

- No article of the uniform should ever contact the ground.

- **Uniform Accessories**

- Gloves, white band shoes, and tall, white socks (with no visible logos) must be worn with the uniform. They must be clean and in acceptable condition.
- **The CMB T-shirt will be worn under the uniform every time it is worn.**
- Uniforms should be brought to the SCPA in the official CMB garment bag.
 - Garment bags are for your uniform only (jacket, pants, and gloves – not shoes).

- The uniform should only be worn during CMB performances and not as a Halloween costume.
- At the end of the season \$20.00 will be charged to your bursar account for dry cleaning.

- **Spirit Uniform**

- For less formal, or pep band events, an alternate uniform may be worn (as dictated by the director of the CMB).
 - The official CMB T-Shirt will be worn (tucked in) if weather allows.
 - The official, CMB Ball Cap will be worn (no exceptions)
 - Members are required to own solid black pants (no visible logos, faded jeans, etc.).

NOTE: Should any part of the uniform not be properly cared for, the member will be responsible for replacing each lost or damaged item. Please see the OSU Band's Administrative Assistant (Dianne Holba) for replacement prices.

Travel Policies

General Information

- Exhibitions, parades, television opportunities, and select away games are part of the OSU Cowboy Marching Band experience.
- Participation in every performance (as dictated by the calendar circulated in June), home or away, is mandatory.
- When classes must be missed for an out-of-town performance, excuse forms will be made available for professors (It is the responsibility of the band member to make up any missed work).
- All rules concerning rehearsals and game day policies still apply.
- Itineraries
 - Complete itineraries will be provided prior to any CMB travel.
 - Students are expected to read itineraries and be on time for all events.
 - Roll will be taken only when the band leaves Stillwater.
 - Any student missing a bus or plane will be expected to meet the band at its next destination at his or her own expense.
- If you are on an Oklahoma State University trip, certain rules must be followed.
 - Your actions are not only a reflection of yourself, but also the entire Oklahoma State band program, the Greenwood School of Music, and Oklahoma State University.

- Failure to comply with these rules will result in dismissal from the organization and forfeiture of one's service award.
- The presence or use of alcoholic beverages and the partaking of illegal substances prior to, during, and prior to the conclusion of the travel itinerary will not be tolerated.
 - Failure to comply with these rules will result in dismissal from the organization and forfeiture of one's scholarship or waiver.
- Bus Seating
 - Sign-up for bus seats will be done prior to the first trip.
 - All subsequent trips will utilize the same seating arrangement.
 - Once recorded, students will not be allowed to change buses.
- Students are required to travel with the band to and from all out-of-town events for logistical and insurance reasons.
 - Exceptions to this regulation must be made in writing at least one week prior to travel.
 - A signed insurance and personal liability waiver may be required.

University Instruments / Equipment

Instruments will be issued during band camp. The student is responsible for maintaining all equipment and will be held liable for negligent damage to, or loss of, school property. Replacement will be at current cost and will be directly billed to the student's bursar account.

Check Out/In

- Some instruments are owned by Oklahoma State University and can be rented to band members who need them.
- Marching brass, percussion and a limited number of woodwinds are available.
 - Sousaphones, Baritones/Euphoniums, Mellophones, Saxophones, Clarinets, Flutes and percussion equipment
- Band members must complete the appropriate paperwork (Instrument Issue Contract) through the band office, agreeing to abide by the conditions of the contract.
- The instrument will be issued for the duration of marching band season and will be the personal responsibility of the band member at all times.
- Following the final band performance of the season, all instruments must be returned on time and in the same condition in which they were issued.
- All equipment, including music, instruments, tuners, uniforms, and other materials, remains the property of Oklahoma State University.
- Failure to return rented, university-owned instruments/equipment will result in fees being added to a student's Bursar Account. Unpaid bursar account bills will result in a hold placed on enrollment and transcripts. Charges will reflect the current rate of repair or replacement.

Care and Maintenance

- Every effort has been made to provide band members with quality instruments in the best possible condition.
- These instruments must be cared for, cleaned, and kept in proper playing condition.
- Take extra precautions throughout the semester to ensure that the instrument is returned in the same condition in which it was issued.
- Always transport the instrument in its case.
- Problems with school-owned instruments must be reported to the staff as soon as they arise.
- The student responsible for the instrument will be liable for repair expenses beyond normal wear and tear and those due to negligence or loss.

Digital Music and Flip Folders

- Woodwind and brass members will be expected to keep all sheet music digitally on their smartphone.
- Cloud-based technologies are used but will not function properly in the stadium.
 - **All digital music must actually be downloaded on your device.**
- Cell phones must be charged and available at all rehearsals and performances.
- Percussion members will be issued flip folders at the beginning of band camp and are required to return them at the conclusion of the season.
- Any and all lost music and flip folders (if used) will be replaced at the personal expense of the band member.

Honorary Band Organizations

OSU Bands sponsors the Alpha chapters of **Kappa Kappa Psi** (National Band Fraternity) and **Tau Beta Sigma** (National Band Sorority).



The purpose of these organizations is to support the OSU Bands through music, fund-raising, service and social activities. Membership is available to members of the Cowboy Marching Band as selected and recommended by the chapter membership and sponsors. Those who meet the qualifications are invited to apply for membership. Membership in these organizations is an honor and based on musical ability, leadership potential, scholarship, and is not limited to music majors.

If you are interested in learning more about either organization, feel free to contact any member to ask questions and join the chapters at interest events in the Fall semester

2025 FALL CMB EVENT/PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

ALL DATES AND TIME LISTED BELOW ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
(this is a tentative schedule to help you plan your fall semester)

August 5-8	Preseason Percussion Camp	Stillwater, OK
August 7	CMB Leadership Preparations	Stillwater, OK
August 8-17	Full CMB Band Camp	Stillwater, OK
August 28 (Thurs)	OSU vs. UT Martin	Boone Pickens Stadium
September 6	Open Weekend	
September 12 (Fri)	McKnight Center Pep Rally Series	McKnight Center
September 13	Open Weekend	
September 19 (Fri)	OSU vs. Tulsa	Boone Pickens Stadium
September 27	OSU vs. Baylor	Boone Pickens Stadium
October 3	McKnight Center Pep Rally Series	McKnight Center
October 4	Open Weekend	
October 11	OSU vs. Houston	Boone Pickens Stadium
October 18	OSU vs. Cincinnati	Boone Pickens Stadium
October 25	OSU vs. Texas Tech	Away (Pep Band Participating)
November 1	OSU vs. Kansas	Away (Full Band Participating)
November 8	Open Weekend	
November 15	OSU vs. Kansas State	Boone Pickens Stadium
November 22	Open Weekend	
November 29	OSU vs. Iowa State	Boone Pickens Stadium
December 6	Big XII Championship	Dallas TX (Full Band) **
December 13-January 19	College Football Playoff or Bowl Game(s)	TBD **

*** These dates should be blocked out in your schedule should the Cowboys advance to the Big XII Championship, be invited to a bowl game, or advance in the College Football Playoff (Games may take place any time from December 14th through January 20th).*

PARTICIPATION IN POST-SEASON GAMES IS A MANDATORY PART OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE COWBOY MARCHING BAND!