

2026 NW Festival Concert Bands Audition Information

Application forms will be submitted **exclusively** online via the NW Festival website: <https://www.minotstateu.edu/nwmusic/>. The application deadline is **Friday, October 9, 2026**. Recorded auditions will be submitted **only** as audio files **uploaded** with the application form. Results will be posted on the website by noon on Friday, October 16, 2026.

Cost: Each audition submitted must be accompanied by a **\$7.00** audition fee. Cash or check (please make sure the payment is identifiable by school issued check; name in the memo of the check; etc.) can be paid in person or mailed to:

Minot State University
Department of Fine and Performing Arts
500 University Ave W
Minot, ND 58707

****If selected to a NW Festival ensemble, the participation fee is \$25.00 per student. This fee is payable at the registration table as participants check-in at NW Festival or can be mailed ahead of time.**

NW Festival Concert **Band Auditions**

Please upload the following audio files:

Woodwinds and Brass (Scales and Two Contrasting Solos/Etudes)

Audio File 1 – Major Scale and Chromatic Scale

- One octave Concert Bb Major Scale (two octaves preferred)
 - Tongued quarter notes = 120 beats per minute
 - **Alto and Baritone Saxes ONLY**, please record a concert F Major Scale (two octaves preferred) instead of a Bb Major Scale
- Chromatic Scale demonstrating student's full range (full range of the instrument preferred)
 - Tongued eighth notes ascending, slurred eighth note triplets descending

Audio File 2 – Solo/Etude #1

- Solo/Etude (unaccompanied) 30-45 seconds in length

Audio File 3 – Solo/Etude #2

- Contrasting solo/Etude (unaccompanied) 30-45 seconds in length

****Percussion** – To be considered for the Concert Band, percussionists must submit snare, mallet, and timpani excerpt recordings. To be considered for the Symphonic Band, excerpts for at least two of these instruments must be submitted (three excerpts still preferred). Excerpts are provided on the next page. A 30-second prepared solo is also required. Please upload each “excerpt” as a separate audio file. If you play drum set, you may include an optional 16-bar beat of your choice (rock, swing, samba, etc)

SNARE DRUM

Excerpt A

Excerpt A is a 16-measure piece in 2/4 time, marked *mf*. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth note patterns with accents. The notation is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

SNARE DRUM

Excerpt B

Excerpt B is a 32-measure piece in 4/4 time. It begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) and *p* (piano) dynamic, followed by a *CRES.* (crescendo) section. The notation includes various drum patterns with accents and dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The notation is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Below the staff, there are two lines of drum notation: the first line contains 16 measures of R (right) and L (left) strokes, and the second line contains 16 measures of R and L strokes.

MALLETS
Excerpt A

Allegro grazioso



MALLETS
Excerpt B



TYMPANI
Excerpt A

Bb - D - F

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a forte (f) dynamic and contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The middle staff is also in bass clef and contains a continuous eighth-note accompaniment, marked with a crescendo (cresc.) and a forte (f) dynamic. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes, marked with a piano (p) dynamic. The system concludes with a double bar line.

TYMPANI Excerpt B

* *f* *pp* *L*³ *L* *R* *R* *L* *R* *L* *R* *R* *L* *R* *R* *L*

f *p* *f* *p* *ff* *p*

6 *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff* *p*

L *R* *R* *L* *R* *L* *R* *L* *R* *R* *L* *R* *R* *L* *R* *R* *L*

4

Change C to Bb

p *R*

R