

PURDUE “ALL-AMERICAN” MARCHING BAND

BAND CAMP 2024 WELCOME LETTER

A Note from the Director

Greetings from Hagle Hall!

We are so excited to know you are planning on auditioning for the 139th edition of the Purdue “All-American” Marching Band – truly the Heartbeat of Purdue University! Excitement is building about the 2024 Boilermaker football team and we can’t wait to see the new version of the “All-American” Marching Band take the field as well.

This year’s band will be made up of 400 members... The unfortunate reality is we will not have a spot for all 550 students auditioning for the marching band. With that said, Purdue Bands and Orchestras is committed to finding a place for any and every woodwind, brass and percussion player to participate. Those not making the marching band will be transitioned into one of our concert or jazz bands (if space is available) immediately following band camp. I assure you, the experience in our indoor ensembles is second to none.

In this document, there is much information you need to read before arriving for Band Camp. Of particular note, please make sure you are completely aware of all audition requirements and all aspects of the Band Camp schedule.

Golden Silks, Goldusters, and Twirlers: Welcome to the AAMB, and congratulations on your successful audition! The below information also applies to you except where you see references to “auditions;” you’ve already taken care of that.

To get you started on the right (well... left) foot, please read the points below carefully. This information is also available on our Purdue Bands & Orchestras website - www.purdue.edu/bands. If you have any questions, please contact the band office 765-494-0770 and we will be happy to assist.

Thank you again for joining us this season, and we wish you good luck and good skill on your preparation process. We are so excited for our season, and we can’t wait to meet you and get it all started!

Warmest Regards,

Professor Jay S. Gephart



Al G. Wright Chair, Purdue Bands & Orchestras
Director, “All-American” Marching Band

Welcome Aboard!

Everyone audition for the "All-American" Marching Band needs to register for Band Camp. Log in at the link below and complete the band camp registration as soon as possible.

<https://www.purdue.edu/bands/registration/BandCamp/register>

Thanks for helping us maintain the most accurate roster possible!

Not Coming to Band Camp?

If your plans have changed and you are not planning on participating in Band Camp/AAMB this season, please reconsider! If, after reconsidering, you determine that you still cannot participate, please email your section leader and let them know you are not planning on attending.

If you have already registered for band camp, navigate to the link below, log in, and remove yourself from the band camp registration. We cannot manually remove you, so you will continue to get camp update emails from us until you remove yourself from this list.

<https://www.purdue.edu/bands/registration/BandCamp/register>

Arrival Dates and Times

The Band Camp schedule has a very detailed list of dates and times for everyone and is available on the Band Camp page of the website - www.purdue.edu/bands/band-camp. This section is merely a summary of initial report times for each group of attendees.

- Student Leadership Team: Friday, August 9, 8:00 AM for all 1's and 10's.
- NEW Woodwind, Brass, and Big Ten Flag Candidates: Sunday, August 11, Check-in online prior to 2 PM meeting. (Link will be sent to candidates by August 7.)
- RETURNING Woodwind, Brass, and Big Ten Flag Candidates: Tuesday, August 13, Check-in prior to 8:30 AM music rehearsal. (Link will be sent to candidates by August 7.)
- ALL Drumline: Sunday, August 11, Check-in online prior to 8 AM auditions. (Link will be sent to candidates by August 7.)
- Golden Silks, Goldusters, Twirlers, and Big Bass Drum: Sunday, August 11, Check-in online prior to 2 PM meeting. (Link will be sent to candidates by August 7.)

What to Bring

1. Shoes: Comfortable shoes for rehearsal are required. Tennis shoes are the norm. Sandals, flip-flops, etc. are not an acceptable alternative. Students are encouraged to break-in shoes before arriving to camp!
2. Large water bottle or water backpack.
3. Reeds: Woodwind players will need to provide reeds. We expect students to use quality reeds at all times.
4. A supply of cork grease, slide oil, valve oil, etc. to keep your instrument in great working order.
5. All candidates for wind instruments except for mellophone, baritone, and sousaphone are expected to bring their own instrument to camp. If you do not own one or cannot physically bring it to campus then one will be provided to you. Everyone should bring their own mouthpiece whenever possible.
6. A drawstring backpack is HIGHLY recommended to carry drill charts, water bottles, etc. to and from the drill field each day.
7. Flip folder: Every instrumentalist (winds and percussion) is required to own a flip folder for music. These can be purchased from the Kloset from Tau Beta Sigma at designated times
8. White gloves: All students using a university woodwind or brass instrument will be required to use white gloves at every rehearsal/performance. These can be purchased in from the Kloset from Tau Beta Sigma at designated times.
9. Black Shorts: all students must provide a pair of solid black shorts (no stripes, patterns, or large logos) that can be used for the End-of-Camp performance and all Gold Day rehearsals throughout the season.
10. Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat: Highly recommended.

Music Preparation

New and Returning wind candidates for marching band need to have completed a video recording music audition prior to attending band camp. You will be contacted by your student leaders with further instructions. Drumline candidates will do their music audition when they arrive for band camp. All audition materials are available on our website: www.purdue.edu/bands/audition/materials.

Under no circumstances should anyone arrive at camp without significant musical preparation on the audition materials.

Instrument Check-Out

Anyone using a school instrument for camp will be issued an instrument and locker at check-in. All woodwind and brass candidates will be expected to provide their own mouthpiece. No lockers will be provided for Students using their own instruments during band camp. You will need to carry your instrument back and forth from your residence hall or apartment.

Band Camp Schedule

The most up-to-date camp schedule is always available on the Band Camp page of the website www.purdue.edu/bands/band-camp. Please check this frequently to see if there have been any changes. Conflicts with the schedule should be communicated to Prof. Gephart (jsgephart@purdue.edu) immediately.

Residence Hall Check-In

- Students who have registered for band camp and have a signed housing contract will receive a link from University Residences to select their early move-in time over the summer. Be sure to check your Purdue email often.
- Cost per night is *approximately \$35 for the room until the academic year contract begins. This cost will be billed to your MyPurdue account.
- Contact University Residences with any questions regarding the move-in schedule.

Course Registration

During registration you will sign up for Band 11000-001, which is the course number for Marching Band. This is the 3:30-5:20 PM section; the other section (002) is for Boiler Beats and requires approval. Percussionists should NOT register for Boiler Beats until they are notified that they are in Boiler Beats

Students will need to be registered for the correct Band class by the end of the first week of classes.

Database

All students must go to the following link and complete your profile

<https://www.purdue.edu/bands/registration/bandcamp/register>

After logging in, click on "My Profile". Returning members should be able to copy in the previous year's information, making this a VERY easy process!

This form includes your medical/insurance information, so please make sure all information is completely up to date.

If you do not have a passport, leave that information blank. Even though your registration may show that you are less than 100% complete, we recognize it as being done.

The database/medical information must be completed before you can participate in Marching Band Camp.

Attendance and Absences

All performances are required, including post-season bowl games. Bowl participation is uncertain until we win six games OR lose seven, so avoid making significant travel plans during late December and the very beginning of January. Absences from performances are not taken lightly, and must be approved well in advance. The AAMB handbook has a partial list of acceptable reasons to miss a performance, but ALL must be pre-approved. If you know you will be missing a performance for an invalid reason, it is best not to audition for the ensemble.

Course Conflicts

We allow up to 2 hours per week of course overlap with BAND 110 in the fall semester. Schedule overrides can be requested using the schedule assistant tool. That will send a request to Susan Lipscomb in the Hagle main office and she will process the override after faculty approval. Note that non-course conflicts will not be considered (outside employment, study time, etc.).

Expected Costs

All students who are accepted to the AAMB will be expected to purchase certain mandatory uniform items upon their acceptance. These items are purchased through the university and will be billed to your MyPurdue account sometime during the first semester. Returning members may already have some of these items. For planning purposes, the estimated breakdown of costs is as follows.

- Band Jacket: \$100
- Band Polo Shirt: \$25
- Uniform Shoes: \$35
- 2024 Gold Day Hat: \$25.00
- Fanny Pack \$12 (optional)
- Tuba Beret \$40
- Percussion and Auxiliary sections will have some additional fees and expenses.

Note that these fees are in addition to the course/activity fees that are concurrent with enrollment in BAND 11000, which will total \$170 for the semester, and includes the fall banquet ticket, all uniform dry cleaning/repairs, equipment maintenance, and the like. All fees are billed to your MyPurdue account several weeks into the fall semester, so don't be surprised when this bill comes across.

Dining during Band Camp is on your own. Students may eat in the Dining Courts as needed by paying the door rate with a Credit/Debit Card or Boiler Express. The costs per meal are: Breakfast: \$8.82 Lunch: \$13.44 Dinner: \$13.98. Many students eat at other restaurants on and off campus and pack breakfast items and snacks for the week.

Social Media

Follow us on social media for official updates and unique content, and tag us @purduebands!

Main Instagram & Twitter: @purduebands

Facebook: Purdue "All-American" Marching Band, Purdue Bands & Orchestras, Purdue Band Fan

YouTube: @PurdueBandsAndOrchestras, @PBO_ConcertArchive

Follow our section Instagram accounts, too!

@purduegolddusterdanceteam

@saxes_of_purdue

@puruedrumline

@purduegoldensilkscolorguard

@aamb.trumpets

@worldslargestdrum

@purduetwirling

@purdue_mellos

@drummajors_aamb

@aamb_btf

@aamb_baritones

@purduebetasigma

@purdueaambpiccs

@aamb_bonestagram

@kky_gammapi

@aamb_clarinets

@purdoobahs

In Closing...

- Start hydrating regularly NOW. Band Camp is almost always extremely warm and we rehearse on asphalt.
- Start conditioning yourself to be on your feet for long periods of time. Frequent brisk walks will help you start to get into condition.
- Complete the profile form as discussed above. You must have the medical information completed in order to participate.
- Get in the habit of answering all correspondence immediately. Your parents will not be able to do this for you, as we ONLY communicate with students about schedules, course requirements, and nearly everything else about your potential participation in our programs.

We know this is a ton of information, but it is all relevant to coming into this program with a complete understanding of the schedule and preliminary expectations of membership in the "All-American" Marching Band.

If you are completely familiar with all of this information, you should expect to come to camp fully prepared to give your very best audition and performance. Just focus on coming in and showing the very best of your work ethic and abilities. While we cannot take everyone who auditions into the AAMB, know that there will be a place for you to perform somewhere in our department!

Come prepared, ask questions, and do everything in your power to be prepared for camp. You're in for a great experience this year!