

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR
74th ANNUAL BAND DAY PARADE COMPETITION
2026 COMPETITION GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION

Dates

- Competition: **Monday, September 21**
- Entry deadline: **Wednesday, September 9**

Time

- Staging begins at 9 a.m.
- Competition begins promptly at 10 a.m.

SPONSORED BY:



Guidelines

- Eligibility
 - Must be an Oklahoma middle, junior high or high school band.
 - This is an Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association (OSSAA) sanctioned event. Students entered must be eligible to represent the school according to the rules of the OSSAA.
 - High school bands will be classified according to current standards of the OSSAA, 2A thru 6A. All junior high and middle school classes will be combined into one (1) class: Jr/Mid High.
- Judging
 - Event is a parade competition and will be judged accordingly.
 - Band, color guard, drum line, drum major, twirlers and school mascots will be judged at the same time.
 - Color guards and twirlers must be performing their parade marching routines as the bands march.
 - There will not be a time when the band stops to play.
 - Jr/Mid high students may march with their high school band, but not vice versa. Schools found violating this policy will be disqualified.
 - Criteria
 - Band: music, alignment, carriage/discipline (marching uniformity) and general interest
 - Color guard: composition and excellence. Notice: hoops & pom poms are not considered official color guard equipment and cannot be judged.
 - Drum line: cadence, tempo, visuals/sticking and musicality
 - Drum major: salute, use of baton-mace, conducting and group command
 - School mascot: school spirit, creativity, animation/enthusiasm/energy, band/crowd interaction, overall performance and optional use of prop(s)
 - Twirler: tosses, baton speed, technique, specialty tricks and showmanship/gracefulness
- Parade Route
 - Route is ONLY half mile in length.
 - Music must be played along the entire route until you are stopped by a parade official.
 - Once stopped, no cadence or tapping allowed as you will be backtracking by the judging stand.

Other Information

- Awards
 - Ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m. on the Bandshell Stage. Win up to \$900 for your band program.
 - Grand Champion trophies are awarded in color guard, drum line & drum major divisions; and two (2) are awarded in the band division separated by small classes (Jr/Mid, 2A & 3A) and large classes (4A, 5A & 6A).
 - If you win a trophy and are unable to stay for the award ceremony, you must make arrangements to pick up your trophy at the Oklahoma State Fair Administration Office on a later date. If you would like your trophy mailed to you, we will deduct the shipping cost from your award money.
 - Cash awards and trophies awarded in the following divisions as follows:

▪ Bands, per class:	1 st - \$250 + trophy	2 nd - \$150 + trophy	3 rd - \$75 + trophy
▪ CG, per class:	1 st - \$150 + trophy	2 nd - \$75 + trophy	3 rd - \$50 + trophy
▪ DL, per class:	1 st - \$150 + trophy	2 nd - \$75 + trophy	3 rd - \$50 + trophy
▪ DM, per class:	1 st - \$150 + trophy	2 nd - \$75 + trophy	3 rd - \$50 + trophy
▪ MS, overall:	1 st - \$100 + trophy	2 nd - \$75 + trophy	3 rd - \$50 + trophy
▪ TW, overall:	1 st - \$100 + trophy	2 nd - \$75 + trophy	
- Credentials
 - Each school will receive the following gate admission tickets and parking passes:
 - Adult tickets: two (2) directors, one (1) per bus driver, one (1) chaperone for every five students.
 - Student tickets: one (1) per band member.
 - Parking passes: two (2) per director's decision - vehicles pulling trailers, directors, etc. Others can park in free lots or pay \$15 to park with the buses.
 - Credential packets will be mailed the following Monday after the registration deadline of September 9 and will include credentials and maps for the parade route, staging and parking.
- Security
 - Security screening measures and special policies are in effect. Anyone on property for any purpose is subject to and must comply with all posted measures and policies whether provided at entry points, on the OSF website, in any written materials or as verbally issued by OSF Management or designated security personnel. Measures and policies are subject to change without notice.