

MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA®

2121 N. California Blvd Suite 1030 Walnut Creek, CA 94596 * 800-834-3340 * (925) 476-4976 * Facsimile (925)
476-4977

www.mtac.org

Incorporated 1897



VOCE

Voice | Orchestral Instruments | Chamber Ensembles

POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR VOCE TEACHERS 2022-2023

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Section 1. Performance Divisions, Categories, and Age Limits	2
Section 2. Eligibility Requirements	2
2.1 Teacher Requirements	2
2.2 Student Requirements	4
2.3 Ensemble Requirements	4
2.4 Judge Requirements	5
Section 3. Application and Fees	5
Section 4. Regional Auditions	5
4.1 Non-Competitive Track	5
4.2. Competitive Track	6
Section 5. VOCE State Finals (Competitive)	7
Section 6. Repertoire Requirements for Regional Auditions & VOCE State Finals	9
6.1 SOLO VOICE	9
6.2 SOLO INSTRUMENTS	10
6.3 VOCAL ENSEMBLE	11
Voice-Only Ensembles; Repertoire Requirements	11
Voice Plus Instrument Ensembles; Repertoire Requirements	11
6.4 INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE	11
Section 7. VOCE State Chair & Communication Procedures	11
7.1 VOCE State Chair	12
7.2 VOCE Communications	12
7.3 State Rights Matters	12
Section 8. Dates & Deadlines	13

Introduction

VOCE is a State Program of the Music Teachers' Association of California®. VOCE stands for "Voice, Orchestral Instruments, and Chamber Ensembles" and is designed for student musicians participating in these disciplines. VOCE began in 1971 and continues to grow and adapt over time to best meet the changing needs of teachers and students.

These *VOCE Policies & Procedures* provide information and guidelines to MTAC teachers wishing to participate in VOCE.

VOCE includes both a Non-Competitive track and a Competitive track in which students are categorized by instrument (vocalists, instrumentalists, and chamber music ensembles) and age division. Both the Non-Competitive and Competitive tracks start at the VOCE Regional Auditions.

Students in the Non-Competitive track who perform at VOCE Regional Auditions receive comments from the Judges. The focus is on the performance opportunity.

Students in the Competitive track receive comments and are selected by the Judges during the Regional Auditions to advance to compete at the VOCE State Finals. The VOCE State Finals will take place online through the MTAC Online System. First-Place Winners at VOCE State Finals perform at the VOCE Winners Recital at the MTAC State Convention, where they are declared the Winner and receive a monetary award.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES UPDATES: Significant updates and date deadlines made to the previous year's *VOCE Policies & Procedures* have been marked in **red** throughout the document. Minor typos, grammar changes, renumbering, reformatting, or reblocking are not highlighted.

Section 1. Performance Divisions, Categories, and Age Limits

VOCE comprises four broad Performance Categories: (1) Solo Voice, (2) Solo Orchestral Instruments, (3) Voice Ensemble, and (4) Orchestral Instrumental Ensemble. Each category is split into Age Divisions with age limits that are determined based on the age of each student as of **November 1** before VOCE Regional Auditions (January).

PERFORMANCE CATEGORY	AGE DIVISION	AGE LIMITS
SOLO VOICE	Intermediate Non-Competitive	11-15
	Intermediate Competitive	14-15
	Senior Non-Competitive	16-19
	Senior Competitive	16-19
SOLO INSTRUMENTS	Strings Junior Non-Competitive	5-12
	Strings Junior Competitive	5-12
	Strings Intermediate Non-Competitive	13-15
	Strings Intermediate Competitive	13-15
	Strings Senior Non-Competitive	16-18
	Strings Senior Competitive	16-18
	Winds Intermediate Non-Competitive	5-15
	Winds Intermediate Competitive	5-15
	Winds Senior Non-Competitive	16-20
	Winds Senior Competitive	16-20
VOCAL ENSEMBLE (3-5 students only)	Open (Competitive and Non-Competitive)	19 & Under (ensemble average age; min. age 5)
INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE (2-8 students only)	Intermediate (Competitive and Non-Competitive)	15 & Under (ensemble average age; min. age 5)
	Senior (Competitive and Non-Competitive)	16-20 (ensemble average age)

Section 2. Eligibility Requirements

2.1 Teacher Requirements

- (a) **MTAC Teacher; Permitted Membership Classes.** The following membership classes are eligible to participate in VOCE: Active, Life, Provisional, Student, and Cal Plan. MTAC

Teachers must be in good standing through paying MTAC membership dues by the annual State deadline and, if applicable, any other outstanding VOCE fees. MTAC Teachers may enroll students in VOCE through their Primary Branch, within the teacher's MTAC-approved instrument(s), as listed in the *MTAC Online State Directory*.

- (b) **Solo Category; Primary Teacher.** Students in the Solo category must have studied with an MTAC teacher as their primary teacher for at least 75% of the total time for all lessons in a given year, in the instrument for which the student is enrolled, which must be the same instrument for which the teacher is approved, as listed in the *MTAC Online State Directory*. Example: A violin teacher coaches a VOCE Ensemble, which includes flute students. The violin teacher is not permitted to enroll those flute students in the VOCE Solo Category.
- (c) **Ensemble Category; Primary Coach.** Each Ensemble must have one Primary Coach, who must be an MTAC member in good standing. Students in the ensemble may have a non-MTAC teacher as their individual, primary teacher, but for VOCE Ensemble participation, the Primary Coach must be an MTAC Member with MTAC Ensemble listed as an instrument in the Member Profile in the MTAC Online System. An Ensemble Category Primary Coach is prohibited from entering their ensemble students in the Solo Category, unless they are the Primary Teacher for that student in the correct instrument.

Example 1. An Ensemble Trio is composed of three students, one on violin, one on viola, one on cello. The Ensemble Primary Coach is not the primary teacher for any of these students individually, even though the Ensemble Coach is a violin teacher, as approved in the *MTAC Online System*. While the Ensemble Primary Coach can enter these students in the Instrumental Ensemble category, they cannot enter any of these students individually in the Solo Category.

Example 2. An Ensemble String Quartet is composed of four students, two on violin, one on viola, and one on cello. The Ensemble Primary Coach is also the Primary Teacher for the two violin students. Therefore, the Primary Teacher may enter the whole Ensemble in the Instrumental Ensemble category and can enter the two violin students in the Solo Category, but cannot enter the viola student or cello student in the Solo Category.

- (d) **VOCE Accompanying.** Teachers (including Primary Coaches) are prohibited from accompanying their own students at the VOCE State Finals. Teachers may accompany their own students at the Regional level only. Collaborative pianists must be an adult (18 years or older) and not enrolled in the program.
- (e) **Judging.** Teachers (including Primary Coaches) cannot serve as VOCE Judges for their own students or students in the teacher's Branch, although they can serve as VOCE Judges for students of other Branches.
- (f) **Teachers who opt out of MTAC courtesy email reminders for dates and other important information are responsible if they miss a deadline.**

2.2 Student Requirements

- (a) **Proof of Age.** Proof of student's age must be provided by parents if student is under the age of 18 or by the student if over the age of 18 to the MTAC State Office; instructions are provided on the MTAC Online System (www.mtac.org > Login > Parent Portal > Help). The age of participants will be defined by the age of the participant on **November 1**. The MTAC Online System requires that a student's proof of age must be submitted by **December 5** or the application will be incomplete and deleted from the MTAC Online System after that date. *Member and technical support are open only Monday through Friday, 9 am-5 pm PST, and are not available on weekends or holidays.*
- i. **Accepted Proof of Age Documentation.** A copy of a government issued I.D. should be submitted as proof of age (e.g., a driver's license, passport, or birth certificate issued by a government agency).
 - ii. **Submission of Documentation.** **Proof of Age Documentation should be submitted as a PDF document through the MTAC Dropbox link.** [Click here for Birth Date Verification Process Instructions](#). Do not post it in the body of an email and do not mail the document to the MTAC State Office. Photos of documents will not be accepted. The State Office will contact those who do not submit acceptable materials, but documentation must be submitted by the deadline.
 - iii. The State Office does not archive or store any Proof of Age documentation that parents or adult students submit. All submitted documentation is destroyed after verification is completed.
- (b) **Correct spelling of Student's name in the MTAC Online System.** Student names on certificates appear as entered in the system by the Teacher. If a reprint is requested because of a misspelling, a reprint fee will be charged.
- (c) **Professionals.** Professionals, defined as those musicians who make a substantial living or their primary livelihood from being paid to perform music, are not eligible to participate in any category, including Vocal Ensemble and Instrumental Ensemble. Professionals are permitted to serve as a collaborative pianist for a Solo student only.

2.3 Ensemble Requirements

- (a) **Ensemble Age Divisions.** Ensemble Age Divisions are determined by the average age of all members combined **as of November 1 (including years and months)**, which is calculated automatically by the MTAC Online System.
- (b) **Vocal Ensemble.** Vocal Ensemble is limited to groups of three (3) to five (5) students. To qualify as a "Vocal Ensemble," only one vocalist is required per group. Other group members may be either voice or orchestral instrument students. See below for "Voice Only Ensembles" and "Voice Plus Instrument Ensembles."

- (c) **Instrumental Ensemble.** Instrumental Ensemble is limited to groups of two (2) to eight (8) orchestral instrument students. Only one piano student is permitted per Instrumental Ensemble. Instrumental Ensembles are chamber ensembles, defined as one person per instrument part.

2.4 Judge Requirements

- (a) Judges cannot adjudicate a participating student from the same Branch as the Judge.
- (b) Judges cannot be the Primary Teacher or Primary Coach of a participating student.
- (c) Judges cannot adjudicate for both VOCE State Finals and Regional Auditions.
- (d) One (1) Judge is required for all Regional Auditions (Competitive) and at least two (2) for VOCE State Finals.

Section 3. Application and Fees

- (a) **Application.** Application for all VOCE events (Non-Competitive and Competitive Regional Auditions, VOCE State Finals, and Convention) must be made through the MTAC Online System.
- (b) **Fees.** Fees for all VOCE events are collected through the MTAC Online System. VOCE fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.

Section 4. Regional Auditions

VOCE is composed of two tracks: Non-Competitive and Competitive. The Non-Competitive track takes place at the Regional Audition level only and does not advance to the VOCE State Finals. The Competitive track progresses in three stages: (1) Regional Auditions, (2) VOCE State Finals, and (3) the MTAC Annual State Convention.

4.1 Non-Competitive Track

- (a) **Non-Competitive Auditions.** The Non-Competitive Track is available at the Regional Audition level only.
- (b) **Format.** VOCE Regional events will be held virtually through the MTAC Online System in accordance with the *VOCE Video Recording Guidelines*.
- (c) **Memorization.** Memorization of music is optional.
- (d) **Adjudication.** Non-Competitive applicants are adjudicated by a professional music specialist and will receive feedback, but will not be selected to move to the VOCE State Finals.

- (e) **VOCE State Finals/Convention.** The Non-Competitive track ends at the Regional Auditions, and students do not move forward to VOCE State Finals or the MTAC Annual Convention.
- (f) **Time Limits.** The time limit for Regionals is **no longer than 10 minutes combined for all repertoire.**
- (g) **Copyright Policy.** MTAC requires students, teachers, and collaborative pianists of MTAC State Programs and competitions to affirm compliance with the MTAC Copyright Policy and to use only authorized reproductions of copyrighted works.

4.2. Competitive Track

- (a) **Competitive Auditions.** The Competitive Regional Audition will be held virtually through the MTAC Online System in accordance with the *VOCE Video Recording Guidelines*.
- (b) **Video Recording Timeline.** VOCE Regional Audition video recordings must be made **September 1, 2022** and after. Students are required to hold an official MTAC cover sheet up at the beginning of the Regional Audition video recording. The cover sheet can be printed from the Teacher/Student/Parent Portal starting on **September 1, 2022**. Submissions that do not include the official cover sheet will be disqualified.
- (c) **Prerequisite.** Competitive Regional Auditions are a prerequisite for students to compete at VOCE State Finals. All VOCE Competitive students must participate in the Regional Auditions.
- (d) **Competition Standard.** Students are adjudicated by professional music specialists against an artist standard rather than against each other. Students selected to advance to the next level of competition are expected to perform at an artistically accomplished level consistent with performance standards at the VOCE State Finals and ultimate Convention performance. Judges' decisions are final for Regional Auditions (Competitive) and the VOCE State Finals - no exceptions.
- (e) **Artistic Standard.** Judges adjudicate on the following factors:
 - i. Tone (beauty, intonation, control)
 - ii. Technique (articulation, accuracy, rhythm)
 - iii. Interpretation (phrasing, style, breathing, expression)
 - iv. General Effect (stage presence, memorization)
 - v. Ensemble Effect (interaction/communication, cohesion of musical intent, synchronization)
- (f) **Memorization.** Memorization of all pieces is required for all Solo categories.
- (g) **Adjudication.** Competitive Regional Auditions are an adjudicated event, where one (1) Judge is required to adjudicate.
- (h) **Regional Winners.** Students who are selected by the Regional Judge during the Regional Auditions are eligible to advance to the next level of competition, the VOCE State Finals.

- (i) **Time Limits.** The time limit for Regionals is **no longer than 10 minutes combined for all repertoire.** The judges will only listen to a total of 10 minutes of repertoire, therefore students may perform the music with cuts.
- (j) **Final Decision.** The decisions of Regional Audition Judges are final - no exceptions.
- (k) **Same Category; Different Ensemble.** Students are permitted to enter the same category numerous times, so long as they do so with a different Ensemble team. An Ensemble team is different when at least 50% of the members are different from the first Ensemble.
- (l) **Copyright Policy.** MTAC requires students, teachers, and collaborative pianists of MTAC State Programs and competitions to affirm compliance with the MTAC Copyright Policy and to use only authorized reproductions of copyrighted works.

Section 5. VOCE State Finals (Competitive)

- (a) **VOCE State Finals Application.** Regional Auditions (Competitive) winners are not automatically enrolled for VOCE State Finals. This is a two-party process:
 - i. Teachers must initiate the application in the MTAC Online System by going to <http://new.mtac.org>>Teacher Portal>VOCE;
 - ii. Parents/adult students must complete the participation waiver and pay the application fee in the MTAC Online System in order to be enrolled in VOCE State Finals. See below for deadlines.
- (b) **Virtual Performances.** VOCE State Finals will be held virtually in the MTAC Online system in accordance with the *VOCE Video Recording Guidelines* posted in all portals.
- (c) **Video Recording Timeline.** VOCE State Finals video recordings must be made **February 10, 2023** and after. Students are required to hold an official MTAC cover sheet up at the beginning of the VOCE State Finals video recording. The cover sheet can be printed from the Teacher/Student/Parent Portal starting on **February 10, 2023**. Submissions that do not include the official cover sheet will be disqualified.
- (d) **Copyright Policy.** MTAC requires students, teachers, and collaborative pianists of MTAC State Programs and competitions to affirm compliance with the MTAC Copyright Policy and to use only authorized reproductions of copyrighted works.
- (e) **VOCE State Finals Results.** VOCE State Finals Results will be posted online for Teachers on **April 10, 2023** and for Parents on **April 12, 2023**.
- (f) **Competition Standard.** Judges are not required to award any First-Place Winners in any category (except Senior Solo Voice). Judges are trained and encouraged to award a First-Place Winner in the event of an “on the fence” situation, in order to encourage and support the work of our students and teachers. Judges’ decisions are final for the VOCE

State Finals- no exceptions. For Senior Solo Voice, Judges will adjudicate students against each other in the same category and age division, and will select a First-Place Winner in each category/age division.

- (g) **Artistic Standard.** Judges adjudicate on the following factors:
- i. Tone (beauty, intonation, control)
 - ii. Technique (articulation, accuracy, rhythm)
 - iii. Interpretation (phrasing, style, breathing, expression)
 - iv. General Effect (stage presence, memorization)
 - v. Ensemble Effect (interaction/communication, cohesion of musical intent, synchronization)
- (h) **Places.** Judges may award “First Place,” “Second Place,” “Third Place,” and “Honorable Mention” at VOCE State Finals.
- (i) **First-Place Winners.** First-Place Winners at the VOCE State Finals perform at the VOCE Winners’ Recital at the MTAC Annual Convention.
- i. **In order to claim the title of “First-Place Winner” and receive the monetary award, students MUST perform at the VOCE Winners’ Recital at the MTAC Annual Convention. Parents and Teachers will be asked to sign an agreement that the title and award will be forfeited if the student does not perform at the VOCE Winners’ Recital.** If a student commits to performing at the Convention, but fails to appear at Convention, then the First-Place Winner title and monetary award will go to the First-Place Alternate and the original First-Place Winner student forfeits the title and monetary award. Failure to perform at the VOCE Winners’ Recital at Convention will disqualify students from performing at Convention for two years (the forfeiture year and the subsequent year).
 - ii. Once students are awarded “First-Place Winner” at VOCE State Finals, they cannot compete again in the same category and age division in the future, even if the student forfeits the winner title and monetary award by not performing at Convention. For example, if a student in a “Junior” age division is awarded “First-Place Winner,” they can only compete in the next age division of the same category, “Intermediate”, if they meet the specified age qualifications.
 - iii. Once an ensemble is awarded “First-Place Winner” at the VOCE State Finals, they cannot compete again in the same category and age division in the future with the same ensemble members. At least 50% of the ensemble members must be different to be considered a different ensemble.
- (j) **No First-Place Ties.** First-Place ties are not permitted at the VOCE State Finals. Ties can be granted for other places.

- (k) **Time Limits.** The time limit for VOCE State Finals is **no longer than 10 minutes combined for all repertoire.** The judges will only listen to a total of 10 minutes of repertoire, therefore students may perform the music with cuts.
- (l) **MTAC Online System Application.** To apply for VOCE State Finals, go to new.mtac.org > Teacher Portal > VOCE. This is a two-party process where teachers must initiate the application in the MTAC Online System, and parents/students must complete the application by paying directly in the MTAC Online System in order to be enrolled in VOCE State Finals. See below for deadlines.

Section 6. Repertoire Requirements for Regional Auditions & VOCE State Finals

- (a) **Versions.** No transcriptions, arrangements, or abridged versions are accepted. An exception is made for those instruments whose standard repertoire does not fit within the normal requirements, in which case transcriptions may be allowed.
- (b) **Same Repertoire for VOCE State Finals.** The repertoire entered for Regional Auditions (Competitive) must be the same repertoire used for the VOCE State Finals.
- (c) **Same Repertoire for Convention.** If a student wins at VOCE State Finals and is selected to perform at Convention, the repertoire entered for VOCE State Finals (Competitive) must be the same repertoire performed at the MTAC Annual Convention. voice

6.1 SOLO VOICE

- (a) **Memorization.** All Solo repertoire must be memorized.
- (b) **Intermediate Requirements.** Students must perform three (3) pieces, in contrasting styles, from different Music Periods, as follows:
 - (i) Two (2) art songs
 - (ii) The third piece may be an art song or a musical theatre piece
 - (iii) Languages: One of the pieces must be in English, and one of the pieces must be in a foreign language
 - (iv) **Arias are not permitted in this age division**
 - (v) Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition
- (c) **Senior Requirements.** Students must perform three (3) pieces, in contrasting styles, from different Music Periods, as follows:
 - (i) One (1) art song
 - (ii) One (1) aria (from opera, oratorio, operetta, requiem)
 - (iii) One piece that may be an art song, aria, or musical theatre piece
 - (iv) Languages: One of the pieces must be in English; each of the other two pieces must be in a different foreign language. (e.g., 1 English song, 1 French song, 1 Italian song)

- (v) Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition

- (d) **Music Periods.** Any combined periods listed below (e.g., 20th/21st Century) are counted as one Music Period for the purposes of VOCE. Music Periods are defined as:
 - i. Renaissance/Baroque
 - ii. Classical
 - iii. Romantic/Impressionist
 - iv. 20th/21st Century (including musical theatre, defined below)

- (e) **Musical Theatre Repertoire.** In both Intermediate and Senior categories, one piece may be a Musical theatre piece. Acceptable musical theatre repertoire for VOCE includes (but is not limited to) the works of:
 - i. Gilbert and Sullivan
 - ii. Rodgers & Hammerstein
 - iii. George and/or Ira Gershwin
 - iv. Irving Berlin
 - v. Cole Porter
 - vi. Rodgers and Hart
 - vii. Jerome Kern
 - viii. Frank Loesser
 - ix. Leonard Bernstein
 - x. Andrew Lloyd Webber
 - xi. Stephen Sondheim
 - xii. Frederick Loewe

- (f) **Unacceptable Repertoire.** Unacceptable repertoire includes:
 - i. Rock opera musicals, hip hop musicals, Disney musicals
 - ii. Pieces that require acting or character singing (e.g., “Just You Wait, ‘enry ‘iggins” (*My Fair Lady*))
 - iii. Popular music (pop music as a genre)

- (g) **Vocal Technique.** Excessive belting, pushing, shouting, or other aggressive popular music vocal techniques are strongly discouraged in the VOCE program.

6.2 SOLO INSTRUMENTS

Repertoire Requirements, All Age Divisions

Solo Instrument students must perform two (2) pieces, in contrasting styles, from different musical periods, as defined in the applicable *Certificate of Merit® Syllabus* for each instrument:

- (a) One (1) piece must be a concerto or major work with orchestral accompaniment. Concerti for multiple instruments (e.g., Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Orchestra) are not acceptable for the Solo category
- (b) The second piece must be from a different musical period than the concerto, contrasting in style and tempo, and be at least 2 minutes and 30 seconds in length
- (c) Unaccompanied works are acceptable

(d) All pieces must be memorized

Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition.

6.3 VOCAL ENSEMBLE

(a) Voice-Only Ensembles; Repertoire Requirements

Voice-Only Ensembles are defined as ensembles that are composed of only Voice students.

Repertoire requirements are as follows:

- i. Two (2) or three (3) songs, in contrasting styles, from different Music Periods, with at least one piece in a foreign language
- ii. Musical Theatre Repertoire (as defined above) is allowed

Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition.

(b) Voice Plus Instrument Ensembles; Repertoire Requirements

“Voice Plus Instrument” ensembles are defined as ensembles that are composed of at least one Voice student, and at least one Instrumental student. Repertoire requirements are as follows:

- i. One (1) to two (2) songs, from different Music Periods, in contrasting style, in any language
- ii. Instrumentation must be written for the ensemble instrumentation, and must remain the same for each piece

Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition.

6.4 INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

Instrumental Ensemble is defined as an ensemble composed of all Orchestral Instrument students, including Piano, Strings, or Winds, but not Voice. Ensembles are defined as one person per instrument part. Instrumental Ensemble repertoire requirements are as follows:

- (a) **Repertoire Requirements.** Instrumental Ensembles must perform two (2) original, contrasting chamber music work movements selected from different musical periods, written for the ensemble’s specific instrumentation.
- (b) **Sonatas.** Major sonatas for piano and a wind/string instrument, in which the piano part is written as an equal part and not accompaniment.
- (c) **Concerti.** Concerti for multiple instruments are accepted in the Instrument Ensemble category, but limited to one piece. A student pianist must play the orchestral reduction part (no professionals allowed). If Concerti for multiple instruments is performed by the Ensemble, the second selection must be a chamber music work.

Students who do not fulfill these repertoire requirements will be disqualified from competition.

Section 7. VOCE State Chair & Communication Procedures

7.1 VOCE State Chair

VOCE Chair

Kathy You Wilson

kathyjyou@gmail.com

7.2 VOCE Communications

In general, most questions or issues that arise can be resolved by communicating with the VOCE Teacher (e.g., parent questions about how to make a payment in the MTAC Online System, repertoire selections, etc.). However, for questions or issues that cannot be resolved by the VOCE teacher, all parties must follow the below guidelines in order for MTAC to address the issue, and must be **communicated by email only** (please identify the Branch, Contact Name in all emails):

Questions regarding Policies:

- (1) Parent to VOCE Teacher...if needed, VOCE Teacher will refer to –
- (2) VOCE Regional Coordinator...if needed, VOCE Regional Coordinator will refer to –
- (3) VOCE State Chair.

For assistance with registration, payment, or other general technical issues:

- (1) Teacher, parent, or student will refer to MTAC State Office by email at programs@mtac.org M-F, 9am-5pm PST.

VOCE State Chair's decision is final. However, issues that cannot be resolved by the VOCE State Chair shall be directed to the MTAC State Board of Directors, who will make the sole and final determination in the matter.

7.3 State Rights Matters

Any conflicts, complaints, or matters related to an MTAC's member's "State Rights" (as defined in the *MTAC Bylaws*), must follow the below procedures, or will not be accepted, responded to, or considered by MTAC:

- (a) Conflicts or complaints involving "State Rights" should first be addressed by direct communications between all the involved parties. Only "State Rights" conflicts or complaints that are **serious** and cannot be resolved directly by the involved parties should be submitted to MTAC.
- (b) If a "State Rights" conflict or complaint cannot be resolved by the involved parties, the person reporting the problem must submit a written, completed, signed "Conflict Report Form" provided by the MTAC State Office. The Form must be submitted within one (1) month of the alleged situation or incident, or will not be accepted or reviewed by MTAC. Anonymous reports are not accepted.

If a member is uncertain as to whether their conflict or complaint is a VOCE issue or a State Rights issue, please contact the VOCE State Chair.

Section 8. Dates & Deadlines

September 1, 2022	VOCE Regional Audition videos can be recorded starting on this date.
November 1, 2022	MTAC Online System opens: Teachers enroll students in VOCE Regional via the Teacher Portal at http://new.mtac.org > Teacher Portal > VOCE.
December 1, 2022	VOCE Regional Applications must be completed in the MTAC Online System
December 5, 2022	Parents must submit Proof of Age Documentation
December 10, 2022	Repertoire must be completely entered; Parents/Students must pay through the MTAC Online System by this date in order to be enrolled in VOCE
January 10, 2023	Regional Audition video submission upload deadline
February 10, 2023	VOCE State Finals Audition videos can be recorded starting on this date.
February 13, 2023	Regional Audition Results available to the Teacher
February 15, 2023	Regional Audition Results available to the Parent
March 10, 2023	Deadline to apply for VOCE State Finals
March 15, 2023	Deadline for VOCE State Finals payment
March 15, 2023	VOCE State Finals submission upload deadline
April 10, 2023	VOCE State Finals Results are posted in MTAC Online System for Teacher
April 12, 2023	VOCE State Finals Results are posted in MTAC Online System for Parent
April 20, 2023	VOCE Convention Application Closes
April 25, 2023	Deadline to submit Poster Assets to the MTAC State Office

July 3, 2023

VOCE Winners' Recital at MTAC Convention

The MTAC Online System is open during the periods listed until 11:59 pm PST. However, member and technical support are open only M - F, 9 am-5 pm PST, and are not available on weekends or holidays.