



To: Prospective *Band of Blue* Member

From: MTSU Bands

We hope that this letter finds you enjoying your summer vacation and that you are excited to start the next chapter in your life at MTSU!

We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to consider joining the *Band of Blue* Marching Band for this coming football season and fall semester. Let us tell you a little bit about what we have to offer a member of the *Band of Blue* Marching Band.

First, being in the *Band of Blue* is fun! The directors and staff work hard to make sure that all our activities and performances are energetic and fun for everyone. Imagine the excitement as you perform for thousands of fans at all the football games and in exhibition at the 62nd Contest of Champions, hosted by MT Bands. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to attend certain away games, pep rallies, and parades for which the *Band of Blue* performs. It should be mentioned that the best aspect of the *Band of Blue* is the members. Where else will you find 250+ people who love music and marching band? You will have the time of your life and will make friends that will last a lifetime. The people you meet through the MTSU marching band may be the biggest benefit we offer!

Next, we are betting that being a member of the *Band of Blue* takes a lot less time than high school band! Many of our members have part time jobs – so it is very possible to do both (and still make good grades.) You will need some outlet or activity to fill your free time, and the *Band of Blue* is just the right thing to round out your college experience! You even get the advantage of moving in early if you plan to live in a university dorm. More details on this will come later in the summer.

Finally, should you join the MTSU *Band of Blue*, you will be a part of an organization that is loved by our campus, the town of Murfreesboro, and the whole Middle Tennessee area. We receive great support from our administration, the faculty, the athletic teams, and the student body. You are seen and heard at MTSU if you are part of the band!

If you have any questions, please call us or make an appointment to visit at any time. We want to help you make the best decisions possible for your college career!

The Band of Blue Marching Band - 80208 - MUEN 3100 001

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How to become a member of the MTSU *Band of Blue* at a glance.....

Who can join?

Any student at MTSU may participate in the *Band of Blue*! You certainly don't have to be a music major! (The band is mostly non-music majors.) There are currently no auditions for wind and percussion spots, but you may be asked to play a little so we know what part or instrument to put you on. Percussionists must audition for instrument placement during band camp. Percussionists should email Prof. Cornish for percussion placement music – craig.cornish@mtsu.edu
Spots for Flag, Majorette, and Dance Team are by audition only. Flag auditions are ongoing, and spots are still open – ask for the requirements!

What does it cost?

Very little! A pair of black marching shoes, and we even give you money for food during our required band camp. All uniforms, transportation, meal per diem when we travel, etc., are provided. Furthermore, all members who successfully complete all requirements of the class receive a stipend from the university at the end of the fall semester. Dorm students get to move in early for free!

How much time does it take once the semester begins?

Probably less than you think! Our normal rehearsal schedule is Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1:00-2:45 pm. On football game days, we have a warm-up rehearsal before the game.

How do I join?

When you enroll at MTSU, tell your advisor that you want to join the *Band of Blue*. When you fill out your class schedule, include *The Band of Blue Marching Band*, MUEN-3100 as one of your classes. You will receive one credit for the class, and the credit can be used as a PE substitute. You must be enrolled in the class to be a member. Fill out the information sheet accompanying this mailing and send it to us so we know you are coming.

The class for which you sign up:

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When is band camp?

Band camp begins Monday, August 18th and goes through Saturday, August 23rd. Percussion sections start on Sunday August 17th. Further details about schedules, what to bring, when and where to arrive, how to check into dorms, etc. will be emailed to you early in August.

Additional course numbers for playing in our concert bands:

Symphonic Band: MUEN-3110

Wind Ensemble: MUEN-3120

Auditions for placement in these ensembles will occur the first week of the fall semester. Audition music will be posted on the School of Music website sometime this summer.

We look forward to having you as a member of the MTSU *Band of Blue*