



School Music Program Enrollment Policy

The Reno Phil Youth Orchestras are intended to supplement public school music programs, not replace them. Members who attend a public school **with a large ensemble program** for their instrument are required to enroll in the school ensemble while they are in the Youth Orchestras. Exceptions will be made for:

- a) Homeschool/virtual school/charter school/private school/Davidson Academy students
- b) Large ensembles that rehearse on Monday nights

Students who meet the above criteria do not need to submit any paperwork. Students who do not meet these criteria but have other reasons not to enroll in an ensemble must submit a completed teacher statement from their primary ensemble teacher.

Alternate programs are acceptable, but only with the approval of the primary ensemble teacher. Acceptable programs for all participants are choir, band, orchestra, and jazz ensemble. A form is available for alternate ensemble participation, and must be signed by both the primary and alternate ensemble teachers. Requests are subject to Reno Phil EdCE (Education and Community Engagement) committee approval.

Requests for exemptions must be submitted by May 21 and will be reviewed by no fewer than three members of the Reno Philharmonic EdCE Committee. Applicants will be informed of the committees' decision prior to auditions.

Scheduling and sports conflicts are not automatic grounds for an exception. It is expected that musicians playing at this level make choices about extracurricular activities that are fair to the rest of the ensemble. Full exemptions will only be granted in extreme circumstances on an individual basis. Any student found to not be enrolled in their school program without an approved exception is subject to immediate removal from the RPYO.

This policy supports the RPYO philosophy of complementing school music programs while taking into account the value of broad and deep musical learning experiences and the need for academic scheduling flexibility.

Online/virtual schools, home schools, and schools with no large ensemble suitable for the student's primary instrument are exempt from this requirement. Students in these exempted categories are encouraged to research enrollment in public school ensembles.



**Policy Appeal Form
School Music Program Participation**

Date: _____

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Primary Ensemble Teacher: _____

Private Music Teacher: _____

Youth Orchestra (circle one): YSO YCO YSS YSE

<p>Exemption requested for: (circle one)</p> <p>1 semester</p> <p>2 semesters</p>
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Exemption Requested (circle one): Alternate Ensemble Full Exemption

Please attach the following information:

1. A letter from the student/parent explaining the request. Students requesting a full exemption should explain why they are not participating in an alternate ensemble.
2. Completed teacher statement from the primary ensemble teacher regarding this exemption request. If there is no primary ensemble teacher, please include a statement from the principal. Please give a copy of the RPYO enrollment policy to the teacher so they know what they are signing off on.
3. Any additional material that would help the committee reach a decision.



Exemption Request Teacher Statement

To be completed by primary ensemble teacher (and signed by alternate if applicable)

I acknowledge that _____ is auditioning for the Reno Philharmonic Youth Orchestras and is requesting an enrollment exemption.

Please circle as appropriate:

What is your role? Principal Teacher

Is there a large ensemble at the school suitable for the student's primary instrument?

Yes No

(If yes, please write options in the notes below)

The enrollment conflict is: Scheduling Other (please explain)

Do you support the request? Yes No

Please write any comments for the committee to consider in reviewing this request below:

Primary Teacher Name: _____

Primary Teacher Signature: _____

(If applicable fill out below)

Alternate Ensemble Teacher Name: _____

Alternate Ensemble Teacher Signature: _____