

MSMTA Theory Program Rules

Students:

- For 2019, students were allowed to retake the highest level previously taken and both tests may count towards awards. Skipping levels is permitted but not recommended.
- May take 2 levels per year and both scores will count toward the theory honors award if both scores are above 90%.
- May not retake the same level of the test in the same year.
- May not take level lower than previous year and counted towards theory and DMA awards.
- May repeat a level of the theory test the next year but only one test per level can be counted toward the theory and DMA awards (except in the case of a repeated level based on the new Royal Conservatory Syllabus for 2019).
- No cheating will be tolerated. If a student is caught cheating, the test will be taken away and will not be graded.

Teachers:

- Must complete the theory works requirements for student eligibility. Work requirements: 1-20 students, up to 4 hours; 21+ students, up to 8 hours.
- Registration is online only and must be completed by 11:59pm on the date of the deadline. Checks and printed forms should be sent to the state registrar within two business days after the deadline.
- By submitting the online application, the participating teacher agrees to abide by all MSMTA rules and rules governing this event. The teacher understands that he/she must be available to assist with this event or produce a substitute who is a member of MSMTA. Teachers failing to fulfill the work requirement will have their students declared ineligible to participate in this event the following year.
- The online registration generates the official list and the amount printed on the form is what is owed. Teachers may edit or delete students online before the deadline has passed. After the deadline, changes may not be made.
- Handwritten changes or requests on the online form will not be acknowledged. Any requests regarding scheduling must be forwarded directly to local chairs.
- Teachers should inform parents that all communication with state and local chairs is through the teacher only. Chairs will not respond directly to parent requests. Teachers

should discuss problems with the local chair, who will then contact the state chair if further action is needed.

- No cheating will be tolerated. Teachers may not photocopy tests from early centers for students testing in later centers. Those suspected of improprieties will be notified by email of a meeting with the state chair, local chair, and president of the association to which they belong. Teachers found in violation may have their students' scores for that year deleted from the record and may be suspended from participation in the program for at least 1 year.

General

- The written portion of the exam will be based upon the workbooks from the Royal Conservatory of Music *Celebrate Theory* workbooks.
- Levels are numbered Prep through 11.
- All tests consist of 105 points. Level 11 consists of 110 points. Students must score at least 90 points to qualify for Theory Awards.
- In 2019 students were allowed re-take the highest level they took previously and both can count toward Theory and DMA Awards. For example, a student that took level 4 in 2018 then took level 3 in 2019, 4 in 2020, can use points from all for the DMA and theory awards until we catch up with the new numbering system.
- Starting in 2020, students must reach levels 4 for the Intermediate Honors Award, 7 for the Senior Honors Award, and 11 for the Distinguished Award