

Frequently Asked Questions

New Members and Parents

Who is eligible?

The Calgary Stetson Show Band is open to students in **grades 10 through 12**. 1 year of prior music or movement experience recommended, a passion for performance and a willingness to **learn new things** required!

How do I join?

Visit the <u>JOIN</u> page on our website at **www.stetsonband.org** to find registration information. If you're unsure about if the Stetson Show Band is right for you, we're offering **free rehearsals for your first month**, so come give it a try for a couple nights, and the instructors at rehearsal can help you with registering in person.

What is the season for the band?

Our season typically runs from **September to the end of Stampede week in July**, with some exceptions depending on the tour for that given year. Tour information is always given out as early as possible in the year.

What is the commitment like?

The time commitment for the majority of the school year is every **Wednesday night from 6:15 to 9:15 PM**, and one weekend per month. Weekend rehearsals are usually Saturday and Sunday from 8:45 AM to 5:00 PM. In July, the time commitment increases as this is where most performances take place. It is our policy that **school music functions and school exams take precedence** over Calgary Stetson Show Band activities.

Do I have to provide my own instrument/equipment?

The Calgary Stetson Show Band provides some instruments such as tubas, baritones, marching french horns, percussion instruments and Colour Guard equipment because they are unique to marching bands. All other instruments are to be provided by the member, whether they are personally owned or rented from their school board or another institution.

What is a field show?

A field show is a high-energy performance that portrays a story or theme through **music**, **movement**, **and choreography**. Each year a different theme is chosen to provide audiences and members alike with a unique performance experience. For more information, check out **the <u>BLOG</u>** section of our website, stetsonband.org, to find an in-depth explanation of field shows in our post <u>"What is a field show?"</u>.

Where are rehearsals? What are they like?

Rehearsals will be taking place at the **Grandstand Building on Stampede Park** until at least January 2022. Rehearsals involve music and marching instruction from our highly trained staff. Students should show up with **their instrument, athletic clothes/shoes, a water bottle, and a backpack.**

Who are the staff members?

The majority of Stetson Band staff members are current or former members of the Bands of Calgary. Many of our instructors are university educated professionals, with many holding **Bachelor's and/or Master's degrees in Music or the Performing Arts**. They work directly with band members to provide high-quality instruction and a memorable band experience. Members benefit greatly from a **low student to instructor ratio**.

How much does it cost? Does tour cost extra?

The membership fees for the year are \$1200. There are payment options, including upfront payment and monthly plans. We also offer **several fundraisers to subsidize fees**, and cost is pro-rated depending on when you join in the year. While most private music lesson rates will exceed \$40-\$60/h, our fees amount to just \$3/h for an entire year of education.

Please contact us if you have any other questions.