



ALABAMA COLORGUARD

The University of Alabama Color Guard 2017 Auditions Color Guard

The University of Alabama Million Dollar Band is accepting applications from highly motivated women with a sound work ethic and great attitude to audition for the 2017 Million Dollar Band Color Guard.

Auditions for the 2017 Color Guard will take place on **FRIDAY, APRIL 28 AND SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017** on The University of Alabama campus. ***YOU MUST BE PRESENT BOTH DAYS!***

A copy of the application form is included in this information packet. Please return the completed form along with a RECENT FULL BODY picture of yourself in a performance uniform or black leotard and a letter of recommendation from your band director by April 14, 2017 to the following address:

**University of Alabama Bands
Attn: Color Guard Auditions
2007 Moody Music Building, Box 870368
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0368**

Any current UA students or 2016 Color Guard members who choose to audition may bring the application form to the Band office located at Room 2007 of the Moody Music Building (new addition). Please place your application in an envelope marked, "Attn: Color Guard Auditions."

The audition process will consist of the following:

A routine that you create demonstrating your skills and ability. You may include flag only, flag and rifle, or flag, rifle, and saber. The flag you use must have a 6 foot pole. You may perform this to music of your choosing. You may bring a CD or mp3 player for your audition. Make sure you have 2 copies ***JUST IN CASE ONE DOES NOT WORK! Do not use any props in your audition routine.*** Use the following guide when creating your routine:

1. Flag only – 1 minute in length
2. Flag and Rifle – 30 seconds of flag and 30 seconds of rifle

3. Flag, Rifle, and Saber – 30 seconds of flag, 30 seconds of rifle, and 30 seconds of saber. **PLEASE NOTE: Auditioning on rifle and saber does not guarantee anyone a weapons spot. Those auditions are held during Fall Camp in August.** You will perform this routine before the judges.

Group Routines

1. Various across the floor patterns/cheers that you will learn during the clinic.
2. A group routine which consists of 50% dance and 50% flag which you will learn during the clinic and perform before the judges.

• **DO NOT USE ANY PROPS IN YOUR AUDITION ROUTINE**

*****INTERVIEWS*****

1. Veteran Interviews – All veteran MDBC G will interview in groups on Thursday night, April 27, 2017.
2. Other Applicant Interviews – All other applicants will interview in groups on Friday night, April 28, 2017.

We use 6 foot flag poles at The University of Alabama. When you learn the group routine, you will use one of our poles. If you bring your own rifle or saber, you may bring either 36 inch or 39 inch.

Audition apparel: (TO BE WORN BOTH DAYS)

- **Black Leotard (NO SLEEVES)**
- **Black dance shorts (skin color tights or panty hose are optional)**
- **Black or beige split sole jazz shoes (shoelaces are optional)**

Your hair must be worn down and curly. No half up and half down...It should be completely down. Performance make-up should be worn. Use red lipstick please.

All individuals selected for membership in the Color Guard will be adjudicated on and must be able to demonstrate these essential elements which include, but are not limited to:

**Aerobic Conditioning
Movement
Flexibility
Performance Skills
Coordination
Marching and Maneuvering
Ability to Grasp Concepts
Attitude
Physical Appearance**

You must currently be student at The University of Alabama or have been accepted as freshman or transfer student for Fall 2017 in order to audition.

A letter or email indicating the audition site will be sent to all those who have returned the application materials to the Band Office by the due date, **April 14, 2017.**

Please have your application in the Band Office by April 14, 2017. **NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED!** The weekend of April 28 and 29, 2017 is the only audition date! **THERE WILL NOT BE ANY OTHER SCHEDULED DAYS TO AUDITION...YOU MUST BE PRESENT BOTH DAYS!**

Please carefully read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) section of this packet. It should answer most of your questions about the audition process.

The results of the audition will be announced after the judges' scores have been tabulated. A meeting of all those who pass the audition will be held immediately following the posting of the results.

Please contact Million Dollar Band Color Guard Choreographer, Mrs. Brandy Keeton at **bkeeton@tcss.net** with any questions you may have.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
2017 COLOR GUARD AUDITIONS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



When will auditions for the 2017 Color Guard be held?

Auditions for the 2017 Million Dollar Band Color Guard will be on **Friday, April 28 AND Saturday, April 29, 2017** on The University of Alabama campus. **YOU MUST BE THERE FOR BOTH DAYS. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY OTHER SCHEDULED DAYS TO AUDITION!** Applicants will be informed as to the location. Please continue to check our website for updates. *****INTERVIEWS – VETERAN MDBCW WILL INTERVIEW ON THURSDAY NIGHT, APRIL 27, 2017 and ALL OTHER APPLICANTS WILL INTERVIEW ON FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL 28, 2017.*****

Is there an audition fee?

Yes! The fee to audition is \$35.00. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, checks or money orders. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the University of Alabama. This will be due at the time of registration on Friday, April 28, 2017.

How many students will be chosen for the 2017 Color Guard?

We have no set number to choose for the Color Guard. We are interested in quality rather than quantity. **ALL** candidates will be judged on the essential elements listed above in addition to their work ethic and **ATTITUDE!**

Are auditions open to the public?

The clinic on Friday night and Saturday morning are open to the public, as well as the performance of the individual routines. The group routine portion is closed to the public.

The audition process requires that I make up a short routine. I do not write work very well will that affect my passing the audition?

No. We are **NOT** interested in your writing ability. We are interested in your performance ability and if you have put time and thought into your presentation. Your writing ability will not be judged.

Do I need to bring my own equipment for the audition?

The Million Dollar Band will have equipment available. You may want to bring equipment that you are familiar with to perform your individual routine. Everyone will use our flag poles for the group routine.

Do I need to have props for my individual presentation?

No. Props are not allowed.

What size flag poles does the Alabama Color Guard use?

We use 6 foot poles.

Are there any requirements for auditioning?

In order to audition for the Color Guard, you must be a current UA student or have been accepted to The University of Alabama as a transfer student or a freshman for Fall 2017.

Am I required to have prior colorguard experience?

Prior experience is strongly encouraged to have the skills required to perform at this level.

What do I have to wear for the audition?

You should wear a black leotard (no sleeves), black dance shorts (skin color tights or panty hose are optional) and black or beige split sole jazz shoes (shoelaces are optional).

Is there anything I can practice to enhance my chances of making passing the audition?

You can stay current on all the equipment fundamentals you have learned.

Movement is an important part of all our work!

You might want to consider taking a dance class to enhance your skills in that area.

Are there any height and weight requirements?

Appearance and physical fitness are very important in the color guard. Appearance includes personal grooming, poise and posture. All color guard members should look well proportioned in their uniform. We **DO NOT** have specific height and weight requirements; however, being physically fit is required due to the physical demands of our performances.

Is there an appearance/performance standard for the Alabama Color Guard?

Yes. The Alabama Color Guard is a visual part of the Million Dollar Band as well as representatives of The University of Alabama. All those selected as members of the Alabama Color Guard will agree to uphold the Appearance and Performance Standards set by the Directors of the Million Dollar Band. These standards include but are not limited to: performing all required choreography, maintaining exemplary physical condition, and adhering to the uniformity of the group as set by the Color Guard Director. Any violation of these standards may result in probation or dismissal from the group at the discretion of the Color Guard Director and the director of the Million Dollar Band.

If I am selected for Color Guard can I wear my hair and makeup any way I wish on game day?

NO! You will be given specific instructions as to how hair and makeup is to be worn for performances. If you have not seen the Alabama Color Guard, it would be advisable to look at our photo gallery. There is a link to that site on the first page of the Color Guard Zone on the MDB website. If you cannot conform to our version of uniformity of appearance, it would be advisable that you not attempt to audition.

If I am selected for the Color Guard, will I be able to receive credit for band?

Yes. All Band members receive one-hour credit. Everyone must register for band. Color Guard members will register for the class that corresponds with their grade level in college:

Freshmen *MUA 153-002*
Sophomores *MUA 252-002*
Juniors *MUA 353-002*
Seniors *MUA 453-002*

When will I find out if I am selected?

The 2017 Color Guard will be announced after results have been tabulated on Saturday, April 29, 2017.

If I am selected, do I have to participate in all performances of the Million Dollar Band?

YES! As a member of the Color Guard, you are expected to participate in all performances. You will also be expected to follow and adhere to all rules, policies, and procedures in the Million Dollar Band Handbook which will be distributed at Fall Camp in August.

If I am selected, do I have to attend a new member color guard camp during the summer?

YES! There will be a camp for leadership and new members on Saturday, July 22, 2017. **THIS IS MANDATORY!**

If I am selected, do I have to attend Fall Camp in August?

YES! Attendance at Fall Camp is **MANDATORY!**

What is the rehearsal schedule after classes begin?

The MDB rehearses everyday, Monday through Friday from 4:00 PM until 5:30 PM and on Saturday prior to football games. The Color Guard begins stretching at 3:30 PM prior to daily rehearsals. Additionally, the Color Guard will have at least one sectional per week outside of the regular rehearsal schedule. This sectional has been held on Wednesday night in previous years.

What must I do to apply?

Click on the **Application link** on the Color Guard page of the University Bands' website. Please fill out the application and mail it along with a **recent full body** photograph of yourself in either your uniform or a black leotard and a letter of recommendation from your band director to the following address:

Attn: Color Guard Auditions
The University of Alabama Band
2007 Moody Music Building, Box 870368
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0368

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Mrs. Brandy Keeton, Million Dollar Band Color Guard Choreographer at: **bkeeton@tcss.net**



2017 Million Dollar Band Color Guard Application

Name: _____ Email: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

UA Students – Complete in addition to the above information

Campus Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Campus Telephone: _____ Crimson Email: _____

High School Attended: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

Name of High School Band Director(s): _____

of years in Color Guard: _____ Dance or Gymnastics Training (Circle whichever applies to you)

Have you marched drum and bugle corps? Yes _____ No _____

Name of corps: _____ # of years marched: _____

Have you ever participated in winter guard? Yes _____ No _____

Name of winter guard: _____ # of years marched: _____

Do you have rifle or saber experience? (Circle which ever applies to you)

Do you play an instrument? Yes _____ No _____ Instrument: _____

Have you been accepted as a student to The University of Alabama? Yes _____ No _____

If you have been accepted to UA, please provide your CWID: _____

What will your status be at UA be next fall? (circle one) Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Graduate School

Age: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

All applicants must complete this form and return it along with a full body photograph in a performance uniform or black leotard and a letter of recommendation from your band director by APRIL 14, 2017 to the following address:

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Please Note: 2016 members who plan on auditioning are not required to submit a photograph, but must complete the application form. If you are visiting The University of Alabama campus or you are a current UA student, you may bring the completed form to Room 2007 in the Moody Music Building rather than send it through the mail.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED