

Mississippi School of the Arts

State Board of Education Agenda Item
June 15-16, 2006

REGULAR ITEMS

Approval

Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools

(Daphne Buckley)

01. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the Admissions Criteria for the Mississippi School of the Arts.

Based on input from trained adjudicators, the Mississippi School of the Arts has refined the application process, streamlining it to delete submission of an electronic or photographic portfolio. All assessment is now done at the on-site audition if students fulfill requirements after screening application materials. This change makes the process less cumbersome for students and has resulted in a significant cost savings without compromising fairness, accessibility, and diversity.

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Application Criteria

Applicants for admission to the Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA) must meet the following criteria:

- Be a resident of Mississippi;
- Be a current tenth grader with a minimum of 10 Carnegie units of study upon the completion of the tenth grade;
- Demonstrate artistic achievement in the visual, performing, literary, or media arts;*
- Have an overall high school grade point average of ~~2.0~~ 2.5 (Schools must include all visual and performing arts course grades in calculating overall GPA.);
- Submit a completed application packet;
- ~~• Submit a portfolio (*VHS videotape or photographs*) in the arts discipline in which they are applying; [2003-2004 criteria allowed videotape, print, CD or DVD. Formats were sometimes difficult to access.]~~
- Complete an on site interview (by invitation);
- Audition and/or present a portfolio for review on site (by invitation);
- Complete a written arts assessment related to their chosen art form while on site at MSA.