



The Association for Music in International Schools

ABOUT ALTERNATES

Alternates are expected to rehearse and prepare the festival repertoire in the same manner as the accepted ensemble members. In the event that a successful candidate opts not to accept their place in the ensemble, or withdraws from the ensemble, an alternate will be invited to take that student's place.

Q: Do alternates pay registration fees?

A: A school will be invoiced for an alternate only after that student has been extended an invitation to join the ensemble and the invitation has been accepted. Choral festival alternates are invoiced for sheet music only, the cost of which is deducted from the registration fee if the alternate is offered a place in the ensemble.

Q: Should I arrange accommodation for an alternate?

A: No. Alternates should not be included in host family rooming preferences or hotel bookings. Only after the alternate has been offered a place in the ensemble will the alternate's housing be arranged. Including your alternate on a rooming list or hotel booking causes unnecessary complications for the festival organizers.

Q: What is the likelihood of my alternate getting offered a place in the ensemble?

*A: There is no pattern of predictability on this. In some years, all of the alternates within a section or voice part will end up in the ensemble. In other years, *none* of the alternates get offered places. There is truly no way of knowing how likely it is that your alternate might receive an invitation.*

Q: My student would have accepted a place in the ensemble, but doesn't want to be an alternate. How do I indicate this?

A: After auditions are announced, just as successful candidates must accept their place in the ensemble, alternates must also accept their status. A student who does not wish to be an alternate can simply decline his or her status. Other alternates would then advance.

Q: How can I know the status of my alternate?

A: Alternates are listed on each festival page of the AMIS website. When the top-listed alternate is moved into the ensemble, all of the other alternates advance.

Q: How soon or late might my alternate receive an invitation to join the ensemble?

A: The invitation could come at any time, right up until the day before the festival begins. If you have an alternate that should be removed from consideration due to lack of preparation or travel constraints, kindly inform the [Executive Director](#). Otherwise, that alternate will be assumed to be prepared and available.

Q: I'm booking airline/train tickets. What should I do about my alternate?

A: Unless you are able to book a fully refundable ticket, it's best not to book for your alternate. Alternates should be made aware from the outset that their transport, if booked at the last minute, will likely cost more.