



UNITED STATE MARINE BAND AND MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Lieutenant Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director

Marine Barracks Washington
8th & I Streets, SE
Washington, DC 20390-5000

Operations: (202) 433-5714
Public Affairs: (202) 433-5809
Fax: (202) 433-4752

www.marineband.marines.mil

CAREER INFORMATION

AUDITIONS

Auditions for “The President’s Own” occur only in anticipation of projected vacancies and are announced in *The International Musician*, as well as by direct mailings to college band directors and instrumental music instructors. All auditions take place in John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks in Washington, DC, and are conducted much like those of major symphony orchestras. There is no preliminary taped round.

Interested applicants should send a letter of inquiry with a current resume to: Operations Officer, U.S. Marine Band, Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE, Washington, DC 20390-5020, or fax this information to (202) 433-4752. Applicants must travel to Washington at their own expense.

MUSICAL REQUIREMENTS

No specific level of education is required, but most members hold college degrees, and many hold advanced degrees. The playing ability and expertise required are equivalent to those of any major professional musical organization.

The broad range of commitments by “The President’s Own” requires musical versatility from all band members. Typical commitments include band concerts, ceremonial events, chamber orchestra and small ensemble performances, touring, and recording sessions.

QUALIFICATIONS

United States citizenship and successful completion of an extensive background investigation are mandatory in order to obtain a Secret Security Clearance with Category III White House Access. Applicants holding a dual citizenship will be required to renounce their foreign citizenship as a prerequisite to obtaining clearance. This clearance is a requirement for

the assignment of the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 5511- Member, United States Marine Band. Due to the length and scope of the security clearance process, it is initiated following the member’s enlistment onto active duty. Failure to obtain and maintain this security clearance will result in administrative separation from the U.S. Marine Corps. Current regulations authorize enlistment between ages 17 and 28. Age waivers may be granted in some cases; however, the maximum age for which waivers may be granted to those with no prior military service is 34. Applicants must also pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and a complete physical examination, which includes complying with established height/weight standards both at the time of enlistment and throughout one’s Marine Corps career (see height/weight chart on the following page).

The playing part of the audition assesses only the individual’s musical qualifications. To be offered a position in “The President’s Own,” one must also be physically qualified and be capable of being granted the required security clearance. Selection as a finalist is not a determination that one is musically qualified for the position. Finalists are those the committee wishes to hear again in order to make a more complete assessment of their abilities.

Finalists are interviewed at the time of the audition in an effort to identify any potential problems that could affect the individual’s ability to be enlisted for duty with “The President’s Own,” either related to health or the White House security clearance. The Privacy Act notice included as part of the Applicant Fact Sheet explains that information will be requested in the selection process and personal interview to provide a basis on which to evaluate the applicant’s suitability to hold a position with “The President’s Own,” and will not be used for any other purpose. While disclosure of this information is voluntary, failure to do so could result in the inability of the staff to evaluate the applicant’s suitability for a position in