

## **Indianapolis Municipal Band Attendance Policy**

Mission: To prepare and perform high-quality musical experiences which educate and uplift both members and audiences, fostering and encouraging a lifelong love for music, and a commitment to personal growth through artistic expression.

The band's Mission Statement recognizes the importance both of preparation and performance. While individual preparation is crucial to fulfilling our mission, ensemble preparation requires the regular presence of members at rehearsals. Regular attendance makes rehearsals more productive, and makes efficient use of rehearsal time.

The purpose of rehearsal time is less to learn individual parts, and more to build a well-balanced ensemble experience.

IMB recognizes that members are volunteers and their band experience is avocational. Outside obligations might sometimes conflict with, and take precedence over, rehearsals and performances. These obligations might include (but are not limited to) health issues, employment demands, family matters, and travel. *Despite these conflicts, the Municipal Band expects members to place a high priority on attendance at rehearsals and performances.*

When absence from rehearsals and/or performances becomes necessary, it is crucial for members to inform the Directors and their section leaders as far in advance as possible. This notice should ordinarily precede the absence. In the case of the Directors determining that a members' absences will be detrimental to a performance, the member will be excused from that performance.

When protracted absence from performances and rehearsals becomes necessary, members may request a leave of absence by submitting written notice, including the length of the absence, to the Directors. Members on leave of absence maintain their good standing within the ensemble, and are welcome to return at the conclusion of the leave.

The intent of this policy is to support the mission and continuing development of the Indianapolis Municipal Band, while also respecting the needs of its members. Please consult either Director with any questions about this attendance policy.

*Adopted by the IMB Board of Directors September 12, 2023*