



Sherando High School

2026 Fall Guard Contract

Purpose

The purpose of this contract is to outline the expectations and responsibilities of all members performing with the 2026 Sherando Colorguard. This activity is completely an after-school activity. That means by receiving this contract, you have been offered a position in the 2026 Sherando Colorguard. This is a highly strenuous activity; you **WILL** have to get your body in shape for what is to come. That also includes coming with a positive mindset and practicing at home outside of dedicated rehearsal time for us to be successful.

Rehearsals and Attendance

The full rehearsal calendar for the season will be provided to you at the beginning of the season. **You are expected to attend every rehearsal.** It is expected that members communicate any absences using the provided absence form **by May 26th, 2026**. All absences must be approved by the director. In cases of illness or emergencies, members must notify the director as soon as possible. If a member is sick, but did not miss school and is able to attend rehearsal even if it is just to observe that is preferred over the member not getting any of the information given that rehearsal. If a member **misses three rehearsals** without notifying the director in advance, the member will be dismissed from the ensemble.

If a member is injured it is their responsibility to see a medical provider to assess the injury. Members should communicate with the colorguard director and provide a note from a medical provider when applicable. It is important to be proactive in preventing injuries and communicate before an injury becomes more severe.

Rehearsal Etiquette. Below are the expectations of all members at rehearsals.

- **Accountability: Being on time is late.** You are expected to be in the designated rehearsal area 15 minutes prior to rehearsal starting. In this activity, we have a lot of equipment to move. The time rehearsal is scheduled to start means that everyone should be on the floor, ready for instructions.
- **Attire.** Proper attire is required for all rehearsals. This includes athletic attire (leggings/shorts, t-shirt/tank top), hair pulled back out of face, **NO JEANS**, athletic tennis shoes, and no excessive jewelry that could cause safety issues.
- **Water.** Please make sure to bring a personal water bottle that is at least 20 oz if not larger to every rehearsal. This is an outdoor activity and hydration is very important to not only the success, but also the health and safety of members.
- **Respect.** Disrespect to staff, members, or anyone else, including but not limited to: bullying, backtalking, rude gestures, offensive/demeaning/impolite comments, etc., will not be tolerated. This is a team activity, and the most successful teams are the ones that have respect for their staff, peers, and themselves.
- **Talking.** At rehearsals, talking should be kept to a minimum and should be about the colorguard show or topics directly related. When a staff member is addressing an individual member or the group, there should be no talking or spinning, and the member should be showing active engagement by looking at the person who is addressing them.
- **Individual time in rehearsal.** If a member is not being directly instructed, the member is expected to use their time productively. Practice choreography, review notes, work together, etc., but sitting around, talking with friends about things unrelated to winterguard, etc., is not a productive use of time; we are a competitive ensemble with a goal of continuing to grow our talent and program.
- **Open mind and positive attitude.** Improvement requires patience and persistence. Members will face challenges and moments of frustration, but these are opportunities to grow. Maintaining an open mind and a positive attitude helps foster a supportive team environment and leads to collective success.
- **Communicate.** Consistent and early communication with the staff is essential because we only know what is communicated to us. We strive to have open communication between the staff, students, and parents to ensure a smooth and successful season. Members and families are expected to communicate promptly if any issues, conflicts, or concerns arise.

Membership Responsibility

Members are responsible for rehearsing their show outside of scheduled group rehearsals, including choreography, fundamentals, and any assignments given by the staff. It is the members' responsibility to utilize each other and use provided videos to catch up on material, should a rehearsal be missed. It is **unacceptable** for a member to come to the rehearsal following an absence, unprepared, and/or unfamiliar with missed material. Colorguard is fast-paced, and we do not have time to review missed material due to an absence after it was taught.

Assignments. To ensure consistent progress and accountability, all members are required to record and submit assignments to the colorguard Google Classroom by the due date as dictated by the Sherando colorguard staff. These assignments allow the staff to provide a specific focus to students.

Fees and Fundraisers

There is a cost to this activity. Our tuition for the 2026 Fall guard season is \$220. This amount will be broken into two separate payments listed below. Members can choose to pay tuition all at once or a little at a time, but payments must be complete by the deadlines below. This tuition covers show design, costumes, staff, transportation costs, competition registration fees, etc., for the season. **This membership tuition is nonrefundable.**

All new and returning guard members will be required to purchase a new guard jacket this season because we are going with a new style of jacket. These jackets will be ordered during band camp so they arrive before our first competition.

Payment Schedule (For Payment Plans)

Retainment Fee - \$50 Due on May 26th, 2026

Full Payment - \$170 Due on August 7th, 2026

Guard Jacket Payment - \$65 Due date TBA

Members will have opportunities to fundraise. The first fundraiser is a calendar fundraiser. Through this, each member can raise their entire membership tuition if they complete the entire Calendar. This fundraiser will start immediately upon acceptance into the group. The **due date** for this fundraiser will be **August 7th, 2026**.

Other fundraisers will be announced throughout the summer.

If the member does not fundraise, **the membership tuition will be paid out of pocket.** If the membership tuition is not paid by the due date, **THE MEMBER WILL NOT PARTICIPATE** until the tuition is paid. The best way to avoid this is to **pay the tuition ON TIME** or communicate any financial concerns with the director.

****Colorguard members are also responsible for purchasing makeup and hair supplies for show hair and makeup as dictated by the director, athletic attire for rehearsals, and a guard member jacket.****

Additional Information:

For the 2026 Fall Guard Season, all members will be required to sign up for the marching band (sem.) through their school counselor to receive a ½ credit in order to participate in the fall season.

Additionally members will also be responsible for paying the \$30 band fee through MySchoolBucks (this is separate from tuition) and providing Mr. Ende (endet@fcpsk12.net) a receipt to confirm payment before the member is allowed to perform.

Health, Medications, and Injuries

If the member has any health conditions or physical limitations that may impact their ability to participate in rehearsals or competitions throughout the season, this must be communicated to the director promptly so proper accommodations and precautions can be taken to protect the health and safety of the performer.

The staff and designated chaperones will need a list of all medications with dosage times and amounts. This information is necessary to ensure proper care in the event that medication must be administered at a contest.

The following is a disclaimer on the possible injuries that can happen, but are unlikely due to this activity. The members will be sore. There is the possibility of receiving sprains, ACL/MCL strain, and/or tears. That is why it is imperative that the membership apply the correct technique taught by the staff. Yes, these are sports injuries because **THIS IS A SPORT.**

If an injury occurs, the member is to immediately inform the staff. This allows us to evaluate and determine whether medical treatment is necessary.

By signing this contract, the member and parents are made aware of the risks involved and waive their right to pursue legal action against the Sherando Band Program, Sherando Guard Staff, Sherando High School Administration, Frederick County School Board, and/or any FCPS employees.

By signing this contract, the member and parent/guardian are granting permission to the Sherando Guard Staff and Show Hosts to get medical attention for said member. The only medical attention given will be what is necessary if an injury occurs.

Photographs/Videos

This section pertains to the member being photographed and or having video taken. At the events we go to in the VMBC circuit, there will be photos and videos taken at times unknown by the staff and membership. These may be used for advertisement purposes.

By signing this contract, the member and parent/guardian are acknowledging the above and are giving permission for photo, video, and likeness to be used.

Contests

This group will be traveling to contests around the state of Virginia from September through November. While this is considered a school function, you, the member, will be representing Sherando High School and the Sherando Band. You are to conduct yourself accordingly. Remember this simple rule:

If you would not do it in front of your parents, do not do it!

Inappropriate behavior, disrespect, or actions that reflect poorly on the program or school may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal from the ensemble.

By signing this contract, both the student and parent/guardian acknowledge that they have read, understand, and agree to all expectations and policies outlined in this contract. They also acknowledge that failure to meet the responsibilities and standards may result in disciplinary consequences and may ultimately lead to the removal of the student from the program. Remember, open and honest communication is important and the key to our success.

Please sign below and return this contract by Tuesday, May 26th, 2026.

Member Name (Print): _____

Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____