

Recommendation for Certification

Individuals who successfully complete the School of the Art Institute's Master of Arts in Teaching program may qualify for certification in Art Education, K-12 for the State of Illinois (*Initial Special Certificate [K-12] Art Education - Type 10*). Certification is dependent upon the following:

1. Students must be/intend to become/ United States citizens. If foreign born, you must provide evidence that you are legally present and eligible for employment. Persons certified by this means have six years following certificate issuance to become citizens.
2. The Illinois State Board of Education Application for Teaching Certificate (ISBE Form #7303C) requires applicants to declare the following: if s/he has ever been convicted of a felony, or **any** sex, narcotics, or drug offense; if s/he has committed tax evasion; if s/he has committed child abuse; if s/he has ever had a certificate denied, suspended, or revoked; and if s/he has defaulted on student loans and not established a repayment plan. Please refer to the actual application for specific details.
3. Students must successfully complete all program requirements as specified in this Handbook and Information Packet, including successful completion of the master's thesis.
4. The Director of Master of Arts in Teaching Program must review the student's evaluations received from cooperating teachers and faculty of the school.
5. Students are required to meet with the Director of Master of Arts in Teaching Program for an exit interview and final transcript analysis prior to recommendation for certification. This meeting assures compliance with personal and professional qualifications and instructional skills. **It is recommended that the student arrange this meeting as close to completion of the program as possible, regardless of immediate intent to apply for certification.**
6. Students must pass the ICTS Basic Skills test and Art (K-12) type 10 subject matter knowledge test in order to obtain initial certification. Students who complete all the requirements for the MAT but do not pass ICTS tests are not eligible for initial certification in Illinois. Students may retake the Art (K-12) type 10 subject matter knowledge test. Please see page 6 for information on departmental policies regarding retaking the Basic Skills test.
7. Candidates must apply for certification via ISBE Form #7303C.
8. The Entitlement Notification must be completed by the Chair of the Department of Art Education and filed with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).
9. Students must acquire an official SAIC transcript to be sent with the completed certificate application. The Director of Master of Arts in Teaching Program will provide the certificate application and instructions how to file for the certificate.

NOTE: Students will not be eligible for certification through SAIC if they fail to successfully complete any requirement for the MAT. Students cannot retroactively complete any requirements for the MAT after departing SAIC.

It is strongly recommended that students successfully completing the MAT apply for certification immediately following completion of the degree, regardless of future teaching plans. Failure to do so may render the Department of Art Education unable to recommend the student for certification in the future, as the requirements for certification tend to change over time.