



**Merit School of Music
Chicago, Illinois**

Part-time Position Announcement:

Band Instructor: Merit Music in Communities

Description

Merit School of Music is seeking a Band Instructor to teach woodwind, brass, and percussion students through our Merit Music in Communities (MMIC) program. Students in the MMIC program are comprised of beginning through advanced level in grades 5th – 8th. Merit's band programs take place at Chicago Public Schools, community sites, and neighboring school districts.

Organization Overview

Merit School of Music is a community music school located in Chicago's West Loop. Our primary goals are to help young people transform their lives and experience personal growth through music by providing access to sustained participation. For more than 40 years, we have been home to a diverse community of talented young musicians and have acted as a springboard for achieving full musical and personal potential. Our 125 passionate and experienced teaching artists provide access to high-quality music education, engaging over 3,000 students annually at our downtown location and in area schools and community centers.

Our students, who reflect the socioeconomic and ethnic diversity of Chicago, have the rare opportunity to learn together, dream together, teach each other, and broaden their horizons as they build inspiring lives through music. Merit develops musicians and provides young people with the tools they need to excel in life, with virtually 100 percent of our graduates going on to conservatory or college.

Merit School of Music is committed to building a world in which historically underrepresented groups can attain access to quality music education. Simultaneously, Merit is continually working towards becoming an organization that is truly reflective of the demographics of the city and the students we serve. Merit is dedicated to being an inclusive, diverse, equitable, and anti-racist organization and continually examining our efforts in this area.

Reporting Relationship

The **Band Instructor** reports to the **Band Program Director**.

Job Responsibilities

Responsibilities of **Trombone Instructor** include, but are not limited to:

- Teach weekly band rehearsals to students in 4th – 8th grade
- Prepare students for performances two to three times per year
- Follow Merit's benchmarks for large ensemble instruction
- Support students' growth through Merit's continuum of programming
- Participate in regular parent engagement activities
- Track student attendance and provide student recommendations for on-site programs
- Assist Program Manager with instrument disbursement and collection
- Attend Merit faculty meetings and departmental meetings

- Other projects as assigned

Personal Skills/Attributes/Qualifications

The ideal candidate would possess the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated success teaching beginning band to a similar age group (4th – 8th grade)
- Demonstrated success teaching in a mixed instrument setting (woodwind, brass, percussion)
- Strong classroom management skills
- Ability to communicate effectively and work well with Merit staff and partnering leadership
- Punctual, professional and collegial
- The ability to travel via car or public transportation
- Spanish language skills preferred

Educational Requirements

Bachelor's degree in music or equivalent experience/training

Schedule

- This position is estimated to cover **up to 10 hours per week** at a variety of teaching locations, mostly on the north and northwest sides of the city.
- Classes may meet before school (7:00am – 8:00am), during the school day (9:00 – 3:00pm), or after school (3pm – 5pm). Individual site schedules will depend on the needs of the partner site, and will be communicated in advance.

Compensation and Application

Compensation is \$50.00/hour for off-site group classes and ensembles. MMiC school site teaching is also eligible for mileage reimbursement in accordance with Merit School of Music policies.

To apply, please upload your resume detailing your relevant experience and qualifications for this role [using this link](#). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Materials should be compatible with Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF. Interviews will be provided to finalists.

ALAANA/BIPOC people, trans and gender nonconforming people, and women are encouraged to apply.

For more information about Merit School of Music, please visit www.meritmusic.org.

Merit School of Music is committed to enhancing the diversity of our musical community, recognizing that by providing a diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning environment for our students, we are preparing them for personal and professional success in an increasingly multicultural and global society. The Merit community recognizes that it has a responsibility for creating and sustaining a learning and working environment where difference is valued, and where equity and inclusion are practiced.