



**MERIT
SCHOOL
OF MUSIC**

Chicago, Illinois

Part-time Position Announcement:

Band Instructor

Description

Merit School of Music seeks a highly qualified candidate for the position of Band Instructor, beginning in mid-September. The successful candidate will teach 8-12 hours of band instruction per week for 30 weeks at two to three Merit Music in Communities (MMIC) sites. MMIC 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** will report to the **Band Program Director**.

Job Responsibilities

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

- Delivering music instruction commensurate with Merit's curricula, teaching philosophy, mission, and values
- Teaching weekly band rehearsals to students in 4th – 8th grade
- Preparing students for performances two to three times per year
- Following Merit's benchmarks for large ensemble instruction
- Supporting students' growth through Merit's continuum of programming
- Participating in regular parent engagement activities
- Completing student attendance during each class or rehearsal
- Completing student assessments once per year
- Attending Merit faculty and departmental meetings
- Demonstrable commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Antiracism (IDEA) work
- Other projects as assigned

Educational Requirements

Bachelor's degree in music or equivalent experience

Schedule

- This position is estimated to cover **8-12 hours per week for 30 weeks** at a variety of teaching locations beginning in mid-September
- Classes at Merit's Merit Music in Communities sites may meet before school (7:00am – 8:00am), during the school day (9:00 – 3:00pm), or after school (3:00pm – 5:00pm). Individual site schedules depend on the needs of the partner site and will be communicated in advance.

**Please note: this position requires candidates to live in the Chicago area.*

COVID-19 Precautions

Merit School of Music requires all employees to provide proof of vaccination and booster shot against COVID-19. Please plan accordingly. Merit invested heavily in its HVAC system to improve ventilation throughout the building. Face masks are recommended to everyone who enters the Joy Faith Knapp Music Center. At MMIC sites, Merit employees must follow the precautions taken by the host institution. This is an in-person role.

Compensation and Application

- Hourly base rates are calculated using a proprietary method that considers years of experience, recruitment/retention skills, studio size, education, and established success as a teacher
 - Base rates range from \$40 to \$80 per hour for private lessons with an additional \$2.00 per hour added to the base rate for group classes
 - Large ensembles pay 1.5x the group class rate
 - Off-site faculty are reimbursed for mileage as calculated from Merit's main campus
- Full-time faculty (780 annual teaching hours) qualify for insurance benefits. 401K eligibility begins at 500 annual teaching hours.

To apply, please upload your resume detailing your relevant experience and qualifications for this role [using this link](#). Applications will be accepted through July 31, 2022. Materials should be compatible with Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF. Applicants will not receive confirmation of receipt of their materials. Further guidance and updates about the hiring process will arrive by e-mail, with interviews provided for 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.