



Merit School of Music Chicago, Illinois

Substitute Music Instructors - All areas

Description

Merit School of Music seeks highly qualified substitute instructors for almost all areas of classroom, instrumental, and vocal study. This includes all band and string instruments, guitar, voice, piano, jazz, music theory, composition, general music, and early childhood instruction. Programming takes place at Merit's main campus in Chicago's West Loop neighborhood between the hours of 4 pm and 9 pm, Monday through Friday, Saturdays between 8 am and 6 pm, and in partner school sites across the city during the academic school day (~8 am - 3 pm) or after school (~3 pm - 6 pm). Merit offers programming from private lessons to small groups, chamber music, and large ensembles (band, orchestra, choir, jazz ensembles). Interested candidates do not need to hold a valid Illinois teaching license but should have musical training at the post-secondary level and/or some experience teaching. Successful candidates will demonstrate alignment with Merit's mission, vision, teaching philosophy, and values and have some availability during the aforementioned times.

Merit almost exclusively works with students from early childhood through high school, with a small number of adult private students.

Organizational 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

Substitute instructors report to the respective Program Director associated with the area of assignment.

Job Responsibilities

Responsibilities of Substitute instructors include, but are not limited to:

- Receiving, preparing, and executing appropriate lesson plans for the substitute assignment
- Delivering a high-quality educational experience to Merit's diverse student body in accordance with Merit's mission, vision, teaching philosophy, and values.
- Taking and reporting accurate attendance records
- Reporting any follow-up items to the regular Merit faculty member and associated Program Director/Manager

Personal Skills/Attributes/Qualifications

The ideal candidates will possess the following qualifications:

- Excellent communication and collaboration skills
- The ability to be prompt, responsive, and professional in all aspects of the work
- Some experience teaching private lessons, group classes, and/or large ensembles
- Belief in the importance of inclusivity, diversity, equity, and antiracism in music education
- Flexible and collegial
- Access to a car or convenient and reliable public transportation

Educational Requirements

Post-secondary education in music, music education, music performance, a closely related field, or prior experience teaching.

Schedule

Substitute instructors should have availability during some combination of the following days and timespans:

- *Merit's main campus*
 - **4 pm - 9 pm**; Monday - Friday
 - **8 am - 6 pm**; Saturday
- *Merit Music in Communities (off-site partners)*
 - **3 pm - 6 pm**; Monday - Friday (after school)
 - **8 am - 3 pm**; Monday - Friday (school day; the number of programs during this time span are limited)

Compensation and Application

Substitute instructors are compensated at a base rate of \$47.50/hr. for private lessons, \$49.50/hr. for group classes, and \$74.25/hr. for large ensembles. Additionally, substitutes are reimbursed for round-trip mileage traveled at the IRS rate, as calculated from Merit's main campus when traveling to partner sites to teach.

To apply, please upload your resume detailing your relevant experience and qualifications for this role [using this link](#). Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. Please apply! Materials should be compatible with Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF. Due to the volume of applications, we are unable to confirm each submission. Interviews will be provided to finalists.

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

For more information about the 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 to create and sustain a learning environment where difference is valued and equity and inclusion are practiced.