

SOUTH DAKOTA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
STATE CERTIFICATION PLAN  
ADOPTED OCTOBER 25, 2002  
Updated October 2016

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the South Dakota Music Teachers Association (SDMTA) Certification Plan is to promote recognition of music teaching as a profession. Four specific objectives of the plan are:

1. To give recognition to teachers of highest professional competence.
2. To suggest guidelines for obtaining and maintaining professional growth
3. To create a practical plan to insure the music teacher the professional status equivalent to other professions requiring similar academic training.
4. To identify to the public those teachers who are recognized by colleagues in the music profession as having met these standards.

## **AUTHORITY**

The Certification Board shall provide all necessary forms and certificates, determine fees with the approval of the State Executive Board, and attend to all matters pertaining to the certification of music teachers.

## **RECIPROCITY**

Any state member who moves from another state shall be granted active membership by reciprocity. In order to apply for reciprocity the teacher should:

1. Join SDMTA.
2. Request an application for state certification from the Certification Chair.
3. Complete the application, indicating a desire for a certificate by reciprocity and enclose a copy of the present state certificate or a copy of the original state application which has been approved.
4. Notify the Certification chair in the previous state of the intention to transfer certification to South Dakota and request verification of the validity of the current certificate. The Certification Board shall recognize certificates issued by other states which maintain the same or similar standards as set forth in this plan. Upon evaluation, the Certification chair shall issue an SDMTA certificate equivalent to the one issue by the other state association.

## **CERTIFICATES**

The Certification Chair, by authority of the SDMTA, will issue four types of certificates:

1. Professional
2. Associate
3. Master
4. Permanent

Requests for certification application forms should be sent to the state certification chair. Nationally certified SDMTA members wishing state certification may obtain state certification by completing the state certification application form and returning it plus the appropriate fee (\$25) to the state certification chair.

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE**

1. Candidates shall hold any of the following degrees in the area concerned from an accredited university, college, or school of music:
  - A. Bachelor's Degree with a major or its equivalent in music, majoring in the performing medium.
  - B. Bachelor's Degree with a minor or its equivalent in music, 3 years of study beyond high school in the desired certification area, and a pedagogy course in that area or 15 hours of workshops having pedagogy emphasis (publishers' workshops do not meet this requirement).
  - C. Bachelor's Degree with 40 semester hours or 60 quarter hours in music, a minimum of 3 years of study beyond high school in the desired certification area, and a pedagogy course in that area or 15 hours of workshops having pedagogy emphasis (publishers' workshops do not meet this requirement).
  - D. Diploma from a recognized school of music that was recognized at the time the diploma was issued.
2. Candidates shall have two years teaching experience.

## **ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE**

1. Candidates shall have successfully completed the SDMTA Pedagogy Examination.
2. Candidates shall have a high school diploma or equivalent.
3. Candidates may apply attendance at music workshops – up to 15 hours in candidate's teaching area – to their certification. Publishers' workshops do not meet this requirement.
4. Candidates to be certified will successfully complete written, oral, or performance examination (or a combination of these) in the following areas: theory, music history and literature, and methods and materials for teaching. Upon evaluation of transcripts by the Certification Chair, successful college level work in music may be used in lieu of examination in applicable areas – 4 semesters or 6 quarters of applied music in their area, 4 semesters or 6 quarters of music theory, 2 semester or 3 quarters of music history/literature.
5. Candidates shall have two years teaching experience.

## **MASTER CERTIFICATE**

Granted to any SDMTA member who has the following:

- A. Minimum of five years teaching experience.
- B. Hold any of the following degrees or their equivalent from an accredited graduate school and in the area requested for certification:
  1. Any Doctor's degree with a major in music.
  2. Any Master's degree with a major in music.

## **PERMANENT CERTIFICATE**

Available to any SDMTA member who holds a valid SDMTA Certificate that has been renewed three times. No additional renewal points are required. Application may be made at the time of the third renewal or anytime thereafter. If certification includes more than one area, the primary area must have been renewed three times and the secondary area(s) at least once. The Permanent Certificate will cover all areas and is valid as long as SDMTA/MTNA membership is maintained. If the candidate has renewed their national certification three times or has permanent national certification, he or she may apply for permanent state certification.

- A. Request a SDMTA Permanent Certificate application from the state certification chair.
- B. Send the completed application form, documentation of three renewals and the appropriate fee to the state certification chair. Documentation may be in the form of copies of SDMTA certificates or canceled checks. Upon approval, a certificate will be issued.

## **CERTIFICATION IN MORE THAN ONE AREA**

A teacher may earn the Professional Certificate in more than one area of concentration. To become certified in a second area the teacher must have completed 8 semester or 12 quarters in the second area or successfully taken the Professional Certification Examination in that area.

## **RENEWAL OF ALL CERTIFICATES**

During the five year period while the certificate is in force, the teacher is required to earn ten points for renewal. These points will be from the two categories listed and at least one point must be in the area of Continuing Education. Renewal points earned during one five year period may not be carried over to another five year period. Teachers will be notified in January of the year their certificate must be renewed. Renewal applications are due by Jun 30 of the renewal year.

### **1. CONTINUING EDUCATION**

- A. College or University courses in music or related fields taken for academic credit (1 point per course credit or CEU).
- B. College or University courses in music or related fields with record of audit attendance (1/2 point per course credit).
- C. Study with a certified or qualified teacher of music without academic credit. Qualifications of the teacher to be approved by the certification board. (1 point for 12 lessons).
- D. Attendance at a music workshop (1 point per 3 hours or more: \_ point for less than 3 hours. Publishers' workshops do not meet this requirement).
- E. Attendance at a National, Division, or State Conference-1 point per attendance for state or division; 2 points for national.
- F. Attendance at a music festival in the U.S. or abroad; a short written report is required; State Certification Board to determine points - 1-3 points.

## 2. PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- A. Performance by the teacher-presentation of:
  - 1. A solo recital (1 point for 25 minutes; 2 points for a full recital of 50 minutes).
  - 2. Ensemble recital (1 point for 25 minutes; 2 points for full recital of 50 minutes).
- B. Performance by student:
  - 1. SDMTA Student Auditions Contestant-1 point per student.
  - 2. State winner of SDMTA/MTNA Student Auditions - 1 point per year per student.
  - 3. 5 or more students in the SDMTA affiliated events - 1 point per year.
- C. Prepare a student to play a concerto with an orchestra (student must perform - 1 point per student).
- D. Presentation of lectures or papers at the National, Division, or State Convention - 2 points per presentation.
- E. Presentation of a program at a local music teachers group-a lecture, report, paper, etc. of at least 30 minutes duration. 1 point per presentation.
- F. Adjudicating state, regional, national event (6 hours minimum). 1 point per year.
- G. Elected or appointed officer on a National, Division, State, or Local Association board (President - 5 points; other offices - 1 point per year; Local Association president - 3 points per year).
- H. Active member of a board committee on the National, Division, State, or local Association level - 1 point per year.
- I. Editor, business manager, advertising manager of the State Association magazine or newsletter - 1 point per year.
- J. Organizing a local music teachers group - 2 points.
- K. Elective option to be determined by candidate with approval of State Certification Board, such as mentoring.
- L. Publication of a musical composition or magazine article - 2 points.

### **RENEWING CERTIFICATION IN MORE THAN ONE AREA**

If an applicant holds state certification in more than one area, all certificates may be renewed with the same ten renewal points, but the teacher must evidence continued activity in each area. Only one renewal fee is charged for all areas of certification. Renewal is achieved by demonstration of continued growth in the area of certification by earning points through workshops, study, performance, leadership in SDMTA, etc. Guidelines for evaluation renewal points may be found in the MTNA Certification Handbook or are available through the Certification chair person. Renewal points earned during a five year period may not be carried over into the next five year period.

### **RENEWAL INFORMATION:**

Complete the appropriate form, return it to the state certification chair including the following:

- A. Documentation of renewal points.
- B. Proof of continuous SDMTA and MTNA membership for the past 5 years. Dues of the renewal year should be paid by July 1 of that year.
- C. \$10 renewal fee. Checks made out to SDMTA.

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