

## Your Question(s):

1. What is the status of academic standards for visual arts in each state?
2. What are the subject area testing requirements to become a visual arts educator?

## Our Response:

Arts Education Partnership staff members gathered information from state education agency websites to answer these questions. An analysis of the information found that:

1. Of 50 states and the **District of Columbia**, 37 (73%) have arts standards aligned to the National Core Arts Standards (NCAS). Five of those states — **Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, New Mexico** and **Rhode Island** — have adapted the NCAS outright.
2. **Pennsylvania's** arts standards are the oldest, last updated in 2002. **Hawaii's** were updated in 2022, with **Ohio's** standards in draft form and scheduled to be board approved in late 2022.
3. All states require a content knowledge test for licensure except **Iowa, Maine** and **Wyoming**. 34 states require a Praxis II test, and the remaining 14 states have a state-specific test, usually offered through National Evaluation Series (NES).
4. Of the 34 states that use Praxis II, 27 require Art: Content Knowledge. The remaining seven require Art: Content and Analysis.
5. In addition to a content knowledge test, some states also require a test for pedagogy. These states require edTPA Visual Arts, Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching or a state-specific test. Some states — e.g., **Maryland** — allow candidates to choose between edTPA and Praxis.

The table below summarizes standards and licensure information for each state.

State	Standards			Licensure	
	Link to Standards	Aligned to NCAS	Date of Most Recent Update	Certification Assessment Requirements – Visual Arts (Content Knowledge)	Other Information
Alabama	<a href="#">Arts Education Courses of Study</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Alaska	<a href="#">Alaska Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Arizona	<a href="#">Arizona Academic Standards in the Arts</a>	Yes	2015	Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment Subject Knowledge: Art	
Arkansas	<a href="#">Arkansas Fine Arts Academic Standards</a>	Yes	2020	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	

California	<a href="#">California Arts Standards for Public Schools</a>	Yes	2019	California Subject Examinations for Teachers: Art	
Colorado	<a href="#">Colorado Academic Standards</a>	No	2020	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Connecticut	Adopted <a href="#">National Core Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Delaware	Adopted <a href="#">National Core Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
District of Columbia	<a href="#">DCPS Arts Framework</a>	No	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Florida	<a href="#">Next Generation Sunshine State Standards</a>	No	2010	Florida Teacher Certification Examination: Art K-12	
Georgia	<a href="#">Fine Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence</a>	Yes	2017	Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators: Art Education	
Hawaii	Adopted <a href="#">National Core Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2022	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Idaho	<a href="#">Idaho Content Standards</a>	Yes	2015	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Illinois	<a href="#">Illinois Arts Learning Standards</a>	Yes	2016	Illinois Licensure Testing System: Visual Arts	
Indiana	<a href="#">Indiana Academic Standards</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Iowa	<a href="#">Iowa Fine Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2017	None	Testing requirement for in-state candidates waived in HF2081, signed into law on 6/13/22
Kansas	<a href="#">Kansas Curricular Standards for the Visual Arts</a>	Yes	2015	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Kentucky	<a href="#">Kentucky Academic Standards for the Visual and Performing Arts</a>	Yes	2015	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
Louisiana	<a href="#">K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for the Arts</a>	No	2004	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Maine	<a href="#">Maine Learning Results</a>	No	2007	None	Testing requirements waived by State Board of Education in Chapter 115, adopted 6/11/22
Maryland	<a href="#">Maryland State Fine Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	

Massachusetts	<a href="#">Massachusetts Arts Curriculum Framework</a>	Yes	2019	Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure: Visual Art	
Michigan	<a href="#">Michigan Merit Curriculum</a>	No	2011	Michigan Test for Teacher Certification: Visual Arts Education	
Minnesota	<a href="#">Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Arts Education</a>	Yes	2018	Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations: Visual Arts	
Mississippi	<a href="#">Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Arts Learning Standards for Visual Arts</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Missouri	<a href="#">Missouri Arts Learning Standards</a>	Yes	2019	Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments: Art	
Montana	<a href="#">Montana Content Standards for Arts</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	Praxis subject test is one option. Other options are GPA; student-teaching portfolio; or combination of degree, out-of-state license and experience.
Nebraska	<a href="#">Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Fine Arts</a>	No	2014	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Nevada	<a href="#">Nevada Academic Content Standards for Fine Arts</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
New Hampshire	<a href="#">New Hampshire Arts Model Competencies</a>	Yes	2015	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
New Jersey	<a href="#">New Jersey Student Learning Standards</a>	Yes	2020	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
New Mexico	Adopted <a href="#">National Core Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2018	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
New York	<a href="#">New York State Learning Standards for the Arts</a>	Yes	2017	New York State Teacher Certification Exam: Visual Arts Content Specialty Test	
North Carolina	<a href="#">North Carolina Essential Standards</a>	No	2016	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
North Dakota	<a href="#">North Dakota Visual Arts Content Standards</a>	Yes	2019	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Ohio	<a href="#">Ohio Learning Standards for Fine Arts: Visual Arts</a>	No	2012	Ohio Assessment for Educators: Art Content Assessment	2022 draft fine arts standards expected to be finalized in fall 2022; draft standards are aligned to NCAS

Oklahoma	<a href="#">Oklahoma Academic Standards for Fine Arts</a>	Yes	2020	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Oregon	<a href="#">Oregon Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2015	Oregon Educator Licensure Assessments: Art	
Pennsylvania	<a href="#">Pennsylvania Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities</a>	No	2002	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Rhode Island	Adopted <a href="#">National Core Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
South Carolina	<a href="#">South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency</a>	Yes	2017	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
South Dakota	<a href="#">South Dakota Fine Arts Standards</a>	Yes	2015	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Tennessee	<a href="#">Tennessee Academic Standards for Fine Arts</a>	Yes	2018	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
Texas	<a href="#">Fine Arts Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills</a>	No	2013	Texas Examinations of Educator Standards: Art EC-12	
Utah	<a href="#">Utah Core Arts Standards for Fine Arts</a>	Yes	2016	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Vermont	<a href="#">Vermont Arts Learning Targets</a>	Yes	2019	Praxis – Art: Content and Analysis	
Virginia	<a href="#">Virginia Standards of Learning Documents for Fine Arts</a>	No	2020	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Washington	<a href="#">Washington State K-12 Arts Learning Standards</a>	Yes	2017	Washington Educator Skills Test – Endorsement: Art	
West Virginia	<a href="#">West Virginia Standards for Arts Education</a>	No	2018	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Wisconsin	<a href="#">Wisconsin Standards for Art &amp; Design Education</a>	Yes	2019	Praxis – Art: Content Knowledge	
Wyoming	<a href="#">Wyoming Fine &amp; Performing Arts Content &amp; Performance Standards</a>	No	2013	None	Praxis II required for elementary education, social studies and early childhood only