



# ISTE CERTIFICATION FOR EDUCATORS

Empowering Educators for Student Success

APRIL 2020

## From technology integrator to learning catalyst

Today *all* educators must be able to use technology to empower students of every age. Learning environments are more diverse than ever, allowing for greater collaboration, transparency of thinking and access to tools to create and publish student work. Educators can create authentic, real-world learning experiences that engage students in ways not possible without technology. With knowledge at our fingertips, the role of the educator is changing, too. Once the purveyor of knowledge, educators are now expected to be the facilitator of students' knowledge construction and develop students as empowered learners.

The ISTE Certification for Educators, based on the [ISTE Standards for Educators](#), was designed to help educators take the next steps in using technology for learning—to move from simply integrating technology to catalyzing active, high impact learning. The ISTE Certification combines professional learning with an assessment that includes:

- Evidence-based and best practice in professional learning (reflective, collaborative, applied, personalized, incorporating tools with purpose);
- Cohort-based community for peer learning, support and feedback;
- Inquiry-based and work product-driven activities with job-embedded opportunities to apply learning and support the development of e-portfolio artifacts;
- Competency-based evaluation using e-portfolios for evidence of applied learning.



## Growth and impact of ISTE Certification

ISTE developed the certification program because of significant changes in today's classrooms. Since its launch in June 2018, the response and interest from educators and school leaders has exceeded our expectations. By the end of 2019, more than 2000 educators from 12 countries participated in the program. Here is what ISTE Certified Educators are saying:

*“This is a rigorous certification process that requires time, effort, and collaboration. You will be exposed to best practices and specific strategies to elevate your teaching, and you will be expected to either raise your game or demonstrate that you are already working at that high level. It’s a significant commitment. Achieving certification was a great vote of confidence that I’m doing a solid job.”*



## ISTE Certification for Educators Model

The ISTE Certification Program is based on the ISTE Standards for Educators and is designed to lead cohorts of practitioners to re-think and redesign learning activities that engage students in active and deep learning. The professional learning components combine onsite and online modules with activities that help participants start their artifact development. Upon completion of the professional learning, participants will have six months to apply their learning, curate artifacts and reflections, and submit their e-portfolio. The ISTE Certification is valid for three years.

### PROFILE OF AN ASPIRING ISTE CERTIFIED EDUCATOR

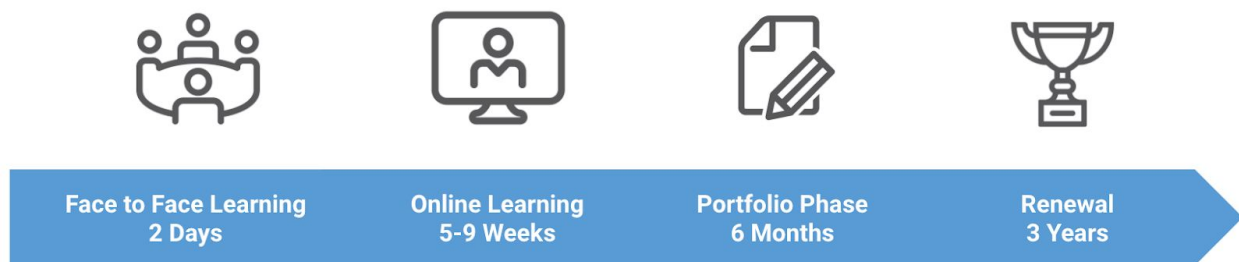
An educator who will be successful in their pursuit of this recognition is someone who is a lifelong learner, who feels comfortable using technology, and ideally is part of a school or district team going through the certification together. They recognize that technology can transform learning for students, and they want to learn how they can use technology meaningfully, purposefully and with the outcomes in mind.

### COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ISTE CERTIFICATION FOR EDUCATORS

The ISTE Certification for Educators is open to those who work with K-12 students or adult learners and it requires the following of participants:

- ❑ To do pre-work that includes completing a self-assessment, joining the ISTE Certification platform
- ❑ To commit to 30 hours of instruction, discussion, activities and assignments. ISTE estimates participants spend about five hours per week for the online learning course.
- ❑ To commit to applying their learning, building artifacts, writing reflections and submitting a portfolio within 6 months of completing the online learning.

### THE BLENDED MODEL



### FULLY ONLINE MODEL

In response to the COVID-19 virus, ISTE and our ISTE Certification Authorized Providers (CAPs) will provide a fully online ISTE Certification. Please visit [iste.org/certification](http://iste.org/certification) for more information about schedules and duration for this mode of delivery.

**BENEFITS OF BECOMING AN ISTE CERTIFIED EDUCATOR**

Those who successfully complete the ISTE Certification will have earned the distinction to join a group of education professionals skilled in the ISTE Standards and capable of moving the ISTE Standards from vision to practice in their classroom, school or district. They will also earn these benefits:

- Recognition that is valid for three years
- ISTE Certified Educator Community
- Digital signature badge and certificate
- Option to earn graduate-level credits
- Letter to supervisor from ISTE CEO
- Engage with the community of ISTE Certified Educators to continue their learning journey

**ISTE CERTIFICATION FOR EDUCATORS SYLLABUS (BLENDED MODEL)****PHASE 1: TWO-DAY ONSITE WORKSHOP**

Goal stretching and goal setting

- Stretching your practice in digital learning
- Setting intentions: Where do you want to go in your professional practice?

Transformative learning with technology

- Deep dive into ISTE Standards for Students and Educators
- Exploring framework models for integration

Visioneering

- Application of the ISTE Standards for Educators
- Infusing Digital Citizenship throughout curriculum
- Using Socratic Seminar to bring the ISTE Standards and other models together

Power of crowdsourcing: Curating tools and virtual networking

- Curation: Evaluating digital tools and resources to support learning outcomes
- Professional learning networks for collaborative learning and professional growth

Research and educational practice

- Learning sciences and neuromyths
- Applicable research for PK-12

Instructional design for learning transformation

- Backward design

Redesign learning challenge

- Content area learning activity design
- Group presentations and feedback
- Iterating learning activity design

Your professional learning: Reflection and goal setting

- Personal reflection
- Next steps: ISTE Certification online modules
- Portfolio requirements and snapshot of evaluation process

## **PHASE 2: ONLINE MODULES DELIVERED IN ISTE LMS**

### **Module 1: Designing for diversity**

Effectively implementing technology within the curriculum has the potential to extend learning in powerful ways. During this module, you will use the SAMR or TPACK models, as well as the ISTE Standards, to reflect on your current teaching practice and address the different learning needs of students in your educational setting.

### **Module 2: Personalized learning and alternative assessments**

This module will explore those questions. And just as technology has the power to transform the way students learn, you'll also discover how technology has the power to transform the way we assess, analyze and respond to that learning.

### **Module 3: Digital learning environments: Design and computational thinking**

This module focuses on the ISTE Standards for Students of Computational Thinker and Innovative Designer, as well as different models and strategies that can be used to help students think deeply, build creative confidence and take risks.

### **Module 4: The new digital citizenship: From fear and risk to opportunity and empowerment**

In this module, we hope to encourage educators to think more about what it means to be a citizen in the digital age and how to empower students to be positive and productive digital citizens. View the short video below to jog your memory about the various topics related to digital citizenship and their relationship to one of three roles: digital self, digital interactor, and digital agent.

### **Module 5: Portfolio Connection: Peer feedback and connection to your portfolio**

In this module, we will connect our own practice to begin curating our portfolio. Each participant will submit at least one artifact and contextualization for peer and facilitator feedback. Time will be provided for questions, reflection and revisions.

## **PHASE 3: CERTIFICATION AND EVALUATION**

### Certification

After completing the online modular work, participants have six months to apply their learning, prepare their artifacts and submit their portfolio for review after completing the training. During

this time, they have access to the online learning modules; a guide for portfolio submissions with exemplars and artifact expectations; and discussion boards to ask questions and get feedback from peers. After a portfolio is submitted, ISTE Certification Evaluators review the artifacts and provide feedback. Those who successfully meet the criteria at 80% or higher become ISTE Certified Educators.

### Evaluation

ISTE has trained a team of evaluators, experts in the ISTE Standards for Educators, to review portfolio submissions. Prospective evaluators undergo regular calibration training to ensure inter-rater reliability and consistent reviews. Participants receive extensive feedback on their submission, including why not a criterion was met or not, to support resubmission, if required.

## **PHASE 4: ISTE CERTIFIED EDUCATOR COMMUNITY**

By earning the certification, ISTE Certified Educators have proven to ISTE, themselves and their colleagues that they are change agents who, through their example, demonstrate a drive for improving practice and a model of lifelong learning.

The community of ISTE Certified Educators is growing and includes a variety of education professionals from around the world--from classroom teachers to superintendents, librarians to higher education faculty. This group of distinguished educators make up a powerful force to transform teaching and learning. Once certified, educators join this private community so they can get professional support and learn from other certified educators, share resources and mentor others.

ISTE Certification is valid for three years and ISTE has developed a renewal process that support ongoing learning, sharing and mentoring. ISTE Certified Educators select activities of interest based on job-embedded priorities, areas for improvement, or collaboration with other educators. Activities will outline resources, materials and feedback required to receive points. In three years, ISTE Certified Educators must earn 300 points to review their certification.

### Learning, Sharing, Mentoring Point Opportunities

ISTE Certified Educators can earn points by demonstrating their continued learning--through online courses, book studies, at conferences; showcasing and sharing resources with those inside and outside the community; and bringing home their learning to colleagues in their school or district. This may be mentoring others through professional learning, serving as a model classroom or engaging in curriculum teams. Activities to earn points are varied and weighted by effort, and ISTE Certified Educators can make recommendations for new point opportunities.

### Challenge Point Opportunities

ISTE has launched the “*ISTE Certified Educator Challenge!*” seasonal, short-duration design challenges intended to promote collaboration and competition. Challenge opportunities engage ISTE Certified Educators in building community with others and creating an ISTE Standards resource bank.

## For more information on the ISTE Certification for Educators

Learn more by visiting the website <https://www.iste.org/learn/iste-certification> to find out more about how you can get educators in your school or district trained.

Or contact:

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