



July 18, 2024

## **American Academy of Art College**

American Academy of Art College, located in Chicago, Illinois has announced that they are closing and will not offer a fall 2024 class. Please see the [closure announcement](#) for more details. American Academy of Art College has been in operation in Illinois since 1923 and institutionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

### **Transcripts**

Current students may email Marcia Thomas at [mthomas@aaart.edu](mailto:mthomas@aaart.edu) to request their official transcript. Alumni can order official transcripts at no charge by accessing the Academy's website at <https://www.aaart.edu> (Navigate to hamburger left corner, student services, transcript request and complete the form).

More details will be forthcoming on how to access transcripts in the future.

### **Diplomas:**

Please email Marcia Thomas at [mthomas@aaart.edu](mailto:mthomas@aaart.edu) for diploma requests.

### **Enrollment/Education Verifications:**

Please email Marcia Thomas at [mthomas@aaart.edu](mailto:mthomas@aaart.edu) for any enrollment information.

### **Transfer:**

Columbia College Chicago has entered into a Teach-Out Agreement with the American Academy of Art and is committed to supporting Academy students to successfully complete their degree requirements.

### **1098-T-Questions and Important Information:**

Forms are mailed to all eligible students by January 31 annually. 1098-T was mailed to the address on file as of June 1, 2024. Please email Marcia Thomas at [mthomas@aaart.edu](mailto:mthomas@aaart.edu) with latest mailing address.

**VA Benefits:** GI Bill students may contact the VA's Education Call Center at 1-888-442-4551 (Mon-Fri, 7 am-6 pm CT). The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs may be able to assist you with veteran benefits questions. If you require additional assistance, please reach out to Dan Wellman at [DAN.WELLMAN@illinois.gov](mailto:DAN.WELLMAN@illinois.gov) or 217.782.7838.

### **US Department of Education Resources:**

Students can find their federal student loan information by accessing the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) at <https://nsldsfa.ed.gov/login>. You can access the site using your Federal Student Aid (FSA) User ID and qualifying personal identification information.



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## Repayment Questions

### **Federal Loan Discharge and Forgiveness:**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Visit this [link](#) to evaluate the eligibility requirements for discharge of Federal Direct Loans, Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL) Program loans, or Federal Perkins Loans. This information **does not apply to non-federal student loans**. For those loans, please contact lenders directly for options and to understand repayment obligations.

Students who attended a school who believe they were defrauded or that their school otherwise violated applicable state law may be eligible for discharge (loan forgiveness). Please visit this [link](#) for assistance.

### **Assistance from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC):**

Former students can find Closed College Information at <https://www.isac.org/students/after-college/repaying-your-student-loans/closed-colleges-information.html> or <https://www.isac.org/>

### **Student Complaints/Hotline:**

The Illinois Attorney General's office created the Student Loan Helpline (1-800-455-2456; Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities can reach the AG's office by using the 7-1-1 relay service) to provide student borrowers with free resources about repayment options and information on avoiding default. Here is the [link to file a complaint](#).

### **Employee Complaints:**

Employees with questions or complaints regarding their employment rights may contact the [Illinois Attorney General's Workplace Rights Bureau](#) (hotline 844-740-5076).

**General Questions for the Illinois Board of Higher Education:** Please email [info@ibhe.org](mailto:info@ibhe.org)