



Certified  
Appraiser

Quilted Textiles

# Quilt Appraiser Certification

## Application

(must be typewritten)

The American Quilter's Society has established the Quilt Appraiser Certification Program to test and certify competent appraisers on their expertise in assigning a replacement value for insurance purposes and a fair market value for donation purposes on a quilt or quilt-related textile.

## Process

Applicants who wish to be certified by the AQS Quilt Appraiser Certification Program should complete the enclosed application form and submit it with a \$100 application fee to the committee by June 1 to be considered for testing the following April. Forms which are incomplete will be returned without evaluation. Answers to essay questions should be typed on one side of a page only. Please be brief but complete.

The application will be reviewed by the Certification Program Committee and if accepted, a testing session will be scheduled at the next AQS Annual Show in Paducah. Candidates will be notified of the date in time to allow for travel arrangements before the session occurs. Accepted candidates must submit an additional evaluation fee of \$150 (applies to every time an applicant takes the test). The on-site testing in Paducah will consist of two parts: a written examination and a practical evaluation in which the candidate will be interviewed and asked to do oral appraisals. A successful candidate must pass both parts of the testing process. The interview will include discussion of technical concerns, appraisal variables, philosophy, and ethics. (If the candidate meets the AQS requirements, AQS will grant certification as a Quilt Appraiser for a three-year period and will provide procedures for recertification every three years. AQS will maintain and advertise the list of appraisers certified by AQS and make it available to its membership and the quilt and antique worlds in general.) An embossing seal must be purchased from AQS to use on all official documents. Official AQS appraisal forms are also available for purchase and use only by appraisers certified by AQS. Please note: fees are not refundable. If an application is rejected, the reason for rejection and suggestions for improvement will be given. A candidate who does not pass both parts of the testing process can retest by paying an additional fee.

## Requirements

All certified appraisers must be able to demonstrate extensive knowledge about the process and procedures used in their appraisal profession and:

- Understand the difference between insurance value, fair market value, and donation value.
- Understand the differences between insurance appraisal, written documentation, and research.
- Establish a circa date for any quilt.
- Determine fabric fiber content.
- Recognize and describe construction and finishing techniques.
- Determine the quality of construction and the quality of quilting and the effect on value.
- Determine the condition of a quilt and recognize alteration, conservation, or restoration.
- Identify patterns.
- Recognize major historical trends and influences in quilting.
- Must have attended the 3-day AQS Appraisal Skills Course before applying for testing.

American Quilter's Society Appraiser Certification Program

Gerald E. Roy, Administrator • Carol Butzke • Carol Elmore

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- Determine the effect of visual impact on the value of a quilt.
- Use accepted appraisal practices, procedures, and vocabulary when dealing with a client.
- Accept and support the ethical practices of the program.
- Have enough knowledge/experience to set realistic values on quilts and quilted textiles which can be substantiated in a court of law.
- Recognize personal limits of knowledge, abilities, and experience with regard to all other appraisers and be willing to refer clients accordingly.
- Maintain professional courtesy with other appraisers.
- Purchase the official embosser; use recommended AQS appraisal form(s) that comply to USPAP standards.
- Recognize and record appropriate provenance.

### **Maintenance of Certification**

To maintain current status as an appraiser certified by AQS, individuals must actively appraise, as well as continue and/or contribute to education in the appraisal area. At the end of the three-year term, appraisers certified by AQS will be notified of the process required to obtain renewal of their certification for another three-year term. There will be a \$100 fee for recertification.

### **Instructions for Application**

Please supply the following information for consideration as a candidate for AQS Appraiser Certification:

- Current photo
- Completed application form
- Two copies of appraisals you have completed (See 9f Application for Certification), one of antique/vintage, one of newly made.

All information should be typed using only one side of a page. Please include your name, address, and date on the upper left corner of each page of your submissions. Send the \$100 application fee and submissions to AQS Appraiser Certification Program, PO Box 3290, Paducah, KY 42002-3290 by June 1.

### **Checklist for Candidate Application**

- 1. \$100
- 2. Completed application form
- 3. Copy of appraisal (see 9F)

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