As long as you have imported your certificate into the OS X Keychain, Apple Mail detects the certificates and uses them.

1. When you open the Mail application after importing your certificate, a prompt will appear:

```
Mail wants to use your confidential information stored in “privateKey” in your keychain.
Do you want to allow access to this item?
```

By selecting “Always Allow” you are permitting Mail to use your personal signature to sign your emails.

2. Under Options you can select the desired signing and encryption settings:

3. When composing a new message, the Mail client will notify you that the message will be signed:

```
This message will be digitally signed and encrypted.
```

4. You can send an encrypted message only if you have the recipient’s public key. If you do not, Mail displays the following message: “This message cannot be encrypted because you do not have the public key for destination email address. Do you want to send the message without encryption?”