National Board Certification

A Distinction That Matters

National Board Certification Program

District and Regional Support Division
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Board Certification: A Vehicle for Transforming Teaching

Ron Thorpe’s article: Sustaining the Profession
Essential Questions

Addressed in this Presentation

• What is National Board Certification?
• What is accomplished teaching as defined by NBPTS?
• What are details pertaining to eligibility, certificate areas, fees, registration, component instructions, and scoring?
• What does the initial certification process involve?
• How can I find assistance to achieve certification?
What is National Board Certification?

- Since 1987 NBPTS has established the profession’s standards of accomplished teaching and created a system to determine if teachers meet those rigorous standards.

- NB certification is a voluntary, performance-based, reflective, peer-review process that recognizes the complex nature of teaching and ongoing improvement.

- NBPTS is an independent, nonprofit organization led primarily by classroom teachers.

- More than 110,000 teachers in all fifty states have achieved NB certification.
NBPTS Five Core Propositions and NCTEP Five Teaching Standards

Committed to students and their learning

Standard 1: Teachers Demonstrate Leadership

Standard 2: Teachers establish a Respectful Environment for a diverse population of students

Standard 3: Teachers know the Content they teach

Knowledge the subjects and how to teach them to students

Standard 4: Teachers Facilitate Learning

Serve as members of learning communities

~Interconnected Themes~

✔ 21st Century Skills/Knowledge
✔ Collaboration
✔ Effective Communication
✔ Ongoing Assessment

Standard 5: Teachers Reflect on their Practice

Think systematically about their practice and learn from experience

Responsible for managing and monitoring student learning
What is accomplished teaching?

What does it look like?

What Teachers Do

What Students Do

What Students Learn
Candidates Must Demonstrate Clear Connections Between:

- Instructional Goals
- Assessment
- Planned Activities
- Student Learning

for Professional Teaching Standards®
The Architecture of Accomplished Teaching: What is underneath the surface?

1st
Your Students - Who are they? Where are they now? What do they need and in what order do they need it? Where should I begin?

2nd
Set high, worthwhile goals appropriate for these students, at this time, in this setting

3rd
Implement instruction designed to attain those goals

4th
Evaluate student learning in light of the goals and the instruction

5th
Reflect on student learning, the effectiveness of the instructional design, particular concerns, and issues

6th
Set new high and worthwhile goals that are appropriate for these students at this time

Five Core Propositions

- Teachers are committed to students and their learning
- Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students
- Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning
- Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience
- Teachers are members of learning communities
Accomplished teaching is defined by the NBPTS Standards, not by NBCTs or by candidate support providers.

Student learning is at the heart of the certification process. Components should demonstrate and reflect the candidate’s impact on student learning.
Fields of Certification

• NB has 25 certificate areas based on the developmental level of teacher’s students and the teacher’s subject area(s).

• In determining your certification area, be certain to take into consideration the ages of your students.

• List of certificates and links to the standards available at http://boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates
An eligible candidate must have:

- a bachelor’s degree
- completed three full years of teaching
- a valid teaching license
Affordability

The total cost of certification is $1,900, with each of the four components costing $475.

Important Price Points

$475 for each component
$75 annual registration fee
## NC Loan Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Percentage Rate</th>
<th>Amount Financed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$1,900.00</td>
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</table>

The cost of your credit as a yearly rate.

The amount of credit provided on your behalf.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finance Charge</th>
<th>Total Payments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$116.00</td>
<td>$2,016.00</td>
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</table>

The dollar amount the credit will cost you.
The amount you will have paid after making all payments as scheduled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment Number</th>
<th>Payment Amount</th>
<th>Payments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>$56.00</td>
<td>1st day of each month beginning thirteen months after funds are disbursed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A teacher must . . .

- be paid entirely from state funds;
- have completed three full years in NC Public Schools (this includes DOC, DHHS, Office of Juvenile Justice, and public charter schools);
- hold a valid, clear, continuing NC teaching license; and
- be engaged in direct classroom instruction, library/media or school counseling work 70% of the time over the course of the academic year.
North Carolina . . .

- lends the $1,900 assessment fee;
- provides up to three days of paid professional leave for new candidates only;
- provides 8.0 CEUs for completion of the process; and
- pays salary differential of 12% of base salary.
Refunds and Reinstatements

**Refunds**

- If you withdraw prior to the withdrawal deadline, you will be eligible for a fee refund, less the nonrefundable and nontransferable $75 registration fee and any service fees. Refund processing time is 4-6 weeks.
- You are NOT eligible for a refund if the withdrawal deadline has passed.

**Reinstatements**

- If you have withdrawn your entire registration and wish to be reinstated before the withdrawal deadline, please contact our Customer Support team at 1-800-22TEACH.
Registration and Deadlines

- **Registration Window:** April 1st - February
- **Fee Payment Deadline:** February
- **Change of Certificate, Specialty Area, or Component Selection:** February
- **Withdrawal Deadline:** February
- **ePortfolio Submission Window:** April - May
- **Component 1 Content Knowledge Testing Window:** March - June 15th
- **Score Release:** On or before December 31
The Components
Component 1
Content Knowledge

A computer-based assessment to demonstrate knowledge of and pedagogical practices for their certificate area.

- 3 constructed response exercise
- Approximately 45 selected response items
Component 2

Differentiation in Instruction

Candidates will submit …

• student work samples;
• instructional material; and other
• evidence using the same criteria.
Component 3

Teaching Practice and Learning Environment

• Captures details about your instructional planning and requires:
  – direct evidence of your practice from two video recordings;
  – instructional materials; and an
  – analysis of and reflection of your teaching as displayed in two video recordings.

• Evaluates evidence of your practice and analysis as it relates to instruction, student engagement, and the learning environment.

• Aligned with the Five Core Propositions and the certificate area Standards.
Component 4  
*Effective and Reflective Practitioner*

- Completion of classroom-based portfolio entry that requires the creation of a profile on a group of students, formative (including student self-assessments) and summative assessments, and participation in a learning community

- Candidates also complete a written commentary

- Candidates evaluated on knowledge of students, planning, instruction, assessment, partnerships, reflection, and professionalism
Assessment Center (Component 1): 40%
ePortfolio (Components 2, 3, and 4): 60%

- Differentiation in Instruction (C2) – 25%
- Teaching Practice and Learning Environment (C3) – 50%
- Reflective and Effective Practitioner (C4) – 25%

- Performance based, standards specific, and peer reviewed
- Evidence must be clear, consistent, convincing
- Separate scores for each component attempted
- Information to assist you in making decisions on whether or not to retake, if necessary
Scoring

- SRIs are machine scored: 1 point for each correct answer, 0 points for each incorrect answer.
- SRI total score converted to a score between 0 and 4.25.
- Constructed response items and all portfolio components scored on a 12 point scale (Levels 1-4, +/- variations at each level).
- 4.25 (4+) – highest score; 0.75 (1-) – lowest score for any scorables item; Not-Scorable = 0.
Retake Policy

You must attempt each of the four components within the first three years of candidacy.

- There is no minimum or maximum score requirement to retake a component. However, once you achieve National Board Certification, retake attempts are no longer available.

- You have up to two retake attempts for each component and you can retake at any time during the five-year window; retake years do not have to be concurrent or consecutive.

- You can have a year when you take no components; however, it does not extend your five year window.

- The highest score received for an individual component will always be used for total score calculation.
Renewal

• As an NBCT, you must complete the Certification Renewal process before your certification expiration date and may only renew certification in your original certificate area. You are offered two opportunities to apply for certification renewal, with the first application window opening late in the eighth year of your current certification and the second opening late in the ninth year.

• Renewal fee is $1250

• Recent change: www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/maintenance-of-certification

• This new policy is aligned with the movement of 40 state licensure systems to a five-year renewal period, but also reflects the National Board’s effort to make certification more affordable and efficient for all teachers, so that it can become the norm in the profession.
Candidate Responsibilities

- Stay in contact with your NB District Coordinator in order to learn about candidate support efforts.
- Meet all established deadlines for paperwork and submit pieces in a timely fashion in order to choose the best window of opportunity for yourself.
- Visit the NBPTS and NC-DPI websites regularly to stay updated on new developments and information regarding the process.
- Keep your contact information updated with NBPTS.
NC National Board Contacts

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction | District and Regional Support
Catrina Parker, Educator Advancement Coordinator
984-236-2106 (office) | 919-807-3362 (fax) | Catrina.Parker@dpi.nc.gov

North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE)
Angela Farthing, NCAE Center
P.O. Box 27347, Raleigh, NC 27611
700 S. Salisbury St., Raleigh, N. C. 27611
800/662-7924 x227 | Angela.farthing@ncae.org

University of North Carolina Wilmington
Somer Lewis, MA NBCT
PDS Director
Watson College of Education- Rm 160
910-962-7244 | lewiss@uncw.edu

The Professional Educators of North Carolina (PENC)
Glennda McKeithan
800-542-8844/919-799-9299 | gmckethan@wcpss.net
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Resources

www.nbpts.org

- Application for certification
- State-specific information
- Resources for ...
  - candidates
  - support providers

NB Customer Support:
1-800-22TEACH (83224)

Review all documents on the Candidate Resource page before registering!