

National Board Certification Information Session – June 10, 2014

FAQ's

- The following questions have references to information contained in the [14-15 Guide to Board Certification](http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/sites/default/files/v1%202014_3%200_Guide_to_NB_Certification_2014_05%2029%2014.pdf) (http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/sites/default/files/v1%202014_3%200_Guide_to_NB_Certification_2014_05%2029%2014.pdf)
- The reference URLs below are primarily from two sites – [www.NBPTS.org](http://www.nbpts.org) which is the home site for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and satellite site www.boardcertifiedteachers.org which is focused on specific information teachers need to begin and successfully complete their certification.

Question	Answer	14-15 Guide reference	URLs /other references
What is the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards?	A group formed in the late 1980's in response to concern of "rising tide of mediocrity" in educational performance that threatened America's economic future and imperiled its standing in the world. Goal - to establish national standards to define quality within the teaching profession. Certifications began in 1993 and there are 100,000 NBCT today.	Page 1	http://www.nbpts.org/who-we-are
What is National Board Certification?	<p>Voluntary, performance based peer review process. Designed to collect standards-based evidence of accomplished practice.</p> <p>Teachers create a unique portfolio of evidence from their own practice that aligns to National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The teacher submits the portfolio to the NBPTS where it is scored by highly-trained assessors who teach the same level and content as the candidate. Teachers whose portfolios are judged as demonstrating convincing evidence of accomplished teaching are granted National Board certification.</p> <p>Candidates must complete 4 components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Content Knowledge Assessment – computer based assessment 2. Differentiation in Instruction – portfolio entry 3. Teaching Practice and Learning Environment – portfolio 4. Effective and reflective Practitioner – portfolio 	Page 3	http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/about-certification
How are the NBPTS standards developed?	NBPTS bases standards for certification on the Five Core Propositions , developed around 1990, which represent the ideals of the profession, much like medicine's Hippocratic Oath. These Core Propositions serve as the foundation for National Board Standards – created by teachers, for teachers – that define what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.	Page 1	http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/about-certification/five-core-propositions
What areas can you get certified in?	<p>National Board Certification is available in 25 certificate areas from Pre-K through 12th grade, structured along two dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the developmental level of the students and • the subject area. 	Page 4	http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/content/25-certificate-areas

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REVISION TO Certification Process and Cost	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The process has been simplified without change to rigor –has gone from requirement of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 4 Portfolio entries and 6 Assessment exercises to b. 4 Component (incorporating assessment center exercises) 2. The cost was reduced from \$2,500 to \$1,900 (see following cell) 	Page 2	(a ppt presentation on revision) http://www.nbpts.org/sites/default/files/documents/Certification%20RevisionsPage/Certification%20Revision_updated%20June%202014.pdf
How long does the process take?	The new “4 component” model is being rolled out over three years. Only the first two components are being offered in 14-15 and the other two introduced in 15-16 and 16-17. A teacher who begins now and stays on track can expect to be certified with scores released in 2017.	Page 2, Page 5,	See above ppt for this info too.
How much does it cost?	The cost has gone down between 13-14 and 14-15 – (used to cost \$2,500.00) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each of four components costs \$475.00 for a total of \$1,900.00 • non-refundable annual \$75.00 registration fee. 	Page 2, Page 4, Page 8	
Is there financial support available from OUSD?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no financial support offered for the cost of becoming certified. • The NBPTS website references scholarships which are periodically available (see link) • However, all teachers who possess current National Board certification receive \$1,000 annual stipend as long as they are actively teaching in OUSD. 	Page 9	http://www.nbpts.org/scholarships
Who can apply for certification?	Teachers must have a valid credential or teaching license and have been teaching with a clear credential for a minimum of three full years prior to starting the certification process.	Pages 5-6	http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/sites/default/files/Eligibility_Forms_3%200_final.pdf
How do I get started?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Read the guide carefully</u>, and then 2. Register online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org <p>NOTE: please look carefully at deadlines listed on Page 4 of guide!</p>	Page 4	http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/node/3
What kind of learning support is available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some support programs and networks are available in CA...see listing. • Notably Stanford. For a \$400.00 fee can join a learning community that meets monthly in Palo Alto • NBPTS information and support line Candidate Support Line: 1-800-22TEACH (Open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST) Written Inquiries: nbptscandidatesupport@pearson.com. 		http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ps/nbptssupportgrps.asp http://nbrc.stanford.edu/candidates/support_program.html