



About National Board Certification

By teachers, for teachers. National Board Certification is available in 25 certificate areas from Pre-K through 12th grade. Teachers in the field created the standards for each content area and developmental level. They represent a generation of consensus about what teachers should know and be able to do to have a positive impact on student learning.

While teacher licensure systems set basic requirements to teach in each state, completion of Board certification means a teacher has voluntarily gone much further. National Board Certified Teachers have demonstrated the professional knowledge, skills and practices required of an outstanding educator. Board certification allows teachers to hone their practice, showcase their talent in the classroom and demonstrate their dedication to their students and their profession—a distinction that follows wherever their career takes them.

Consistent principles. Board certification is performance-based and peer-reviewed, with a strong emphasis on content knowledge and impact on student learning.

Board certification has many benefits.

National Board Certification is the most respected professional distinction available in education.

- Board-certified teachers represent a large network of outstanding teachers shaping the profession and supporting their colleagues.
- Teachers and students benefit immediately as the high and rigorous National Board Standards come alive in their classroom during the certification process.
- Many states and districts offer fee support to teachers seeking Board certification.
- Financial incentives, including bonuses and raises, are available in several states and districts for teachers who achieve Board certification.
- Board-certified teachers are recognized across the nation because they've met the highest standards set by the profession.
- School and district administrators often give preference to Board-certified teachers when making hiring decisions and selecting educators to become teacher leaders.

100,000 teachers and counting! To make the dramatic improvements we seek in education for every student, Board certification must be the norm, not the exception. To meet this goal, the National Board works with Board-certified teachers and other experts in the profession to make the certification process flexible and affordable and to incorporate the latest research on best practices in teaching while maintaining the integrity and transformative nature of the certification process.

The National Board is a not-for-profit organization governed by a board of directors, the majority of whom are Board-certified teachers. National Board Standards and the certification process are developed by committees of outstanding educators made up of classroom teachers as well as experts in child development, teacher education and relevant disciplines. The National Board works in partnership with teachers unions, state and district leaders, nonprofits, foundations and policy makers to elevate the profession and advance student learning in all 50 states.

National Board for
Professional Teaching
Standards

Do the Best
for Your Students.
Be the Best for You.

The National Board has advanced the teaching profession by establishing and maintaining the definitive standards of excellence in teaching and certifying more than 100,000 educators against those standards.

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