

An Overview of National Board Certification



SEATTLE
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS



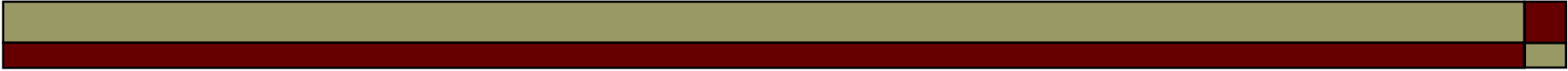
NBPTS Facts

- **Created in 1987 in response to *A Nation At Risk* and *A Nation Prepared***
- **Established for educators to achieve distinction through a demanding performance assessment, providing a national voluntary system certifying those who meet these standards**
- **An independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan and non-governmental organization. The majority of the 63 member board of directors are classroom teachers**



What is National Board Certification?

- *A voluntary certification program that identifies great teachers – and makes them better*
- *A certification process that reflects advanced content knowledge and teaching skills*
- *An assessment based on national teaching standards*
- *A rigorous, peer developed & assessed process designed to retain and reward accomplished educators*

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- ***Based on core propositions of what educators should know and be able to do:***
 - * *Committed to students and their learning*
 - * *Know subjects they teach & how to teach those subjects to students*
 - * *Responsible for managing and monitoring student learning*
 - * *Think systematically about their practice & learn from experience*
 - * *Members of learning communities*



Criteria for NBC Eligibility

- Bachelor's degree
- Three years K-12 experience public or private school
- Access to at least 6 students in the area in which you are attempting certification
- Teaching certificate in the state



NBC Work: Portfolio Entries

Four portfolio entries to demonstrate evidence of practice. Includes student work to show growth over time, videotapes of classroom activities/interactions, and written commentaries with analysis and reflection.

1. Student Growth Analysis
2. Small Group Video + Analysis
3. Whole Class Video + Analysis
4. Documented Accomplishments



NBC Work: Assessments

Assessment Center Tests

- ❑ Focus on age and content-appropriate teaching strategies and subject content knowledge
- ❑ Respond to six computer-delivered prompts, each allowing 30 minutes for typed response



NBC Timeline

Spring/Summer 2008:

First scholarship deadline has passed, so scholarships may not be as plentiful; but you can still apply for OSPI Scholarship **round 2: due May 15, 2008**

- Applications and \$565 fee to receive portfolio materials due to NBPTS by Aug. 1, full payment of \$2500 due Dec. 31, 2008)
- Scholarship recipients sign up with support provider (UW Orientation is May 17)
- WEA Jump Start seminar

Candidacy year 2008-2009

- Complete portfolio by March 31, 2009
- Take assessment center tests by June 15, 2009

Find out scores by December of 2009



NBC Support and Grant Options

SUPPORT

- **WEA** jump start and home stretch seminars
- **UW** support groups facilitated by NBCTs
- **NBPTS** online/phone support

GRANTS

- **OSPI:** scholarships for half the fee (requires support class)
- **Targeted High Needs Initiative (THNI):** additional funds for high need schools



Universities' Roles

UW and other universities have developed programs to support candidates

- Summer orientation activities
- Cohort groups with NBCT facilitators
- Certificate study days



“Take One!”

- ❑ One video entry completed and scored
- ❑ Score can be banked and applied to candidacy
- ❑ No eligibility requirements
- ❑ Cost is \$395
- ❑ Great sampling option **IF** you have time to spare before certificate expires.



Important Considerations

- Intensity of process and time demands (300-500 hours)
- Pay attention to deadlines for renewing state certificates
- National certification rate is 45%, and 70% with retakes (though higher in Washington State)



Benefits of Obtaining Certification

- ❑ Opportunity for reflection and growth, and to be challenged as a professional
- ❑ Financial reward of 5K annual stipend, which now counts toward retirement.
- ❑ An additional 5K for high need schools
(Free/reduced lunch: 70% Elementary, 60% Middle, 50% High School)
- ❑ Clock hours (up to 90 for certifying) and credits available



Benefits, continued:

- ❑ Certification valid 10 years and reciprocity with most other states
- ❑ Professional Certification granted for Residency Certificate holders (once NB certification is achieved)
- ❑ Can possibly add new endorsement
- ❑ Clock hours requirement waived to renew Continuing or Professional Certificate



Information Packet Includes

- Resource and contact list
- NBC certificate areas
- Calendars for certification and *Take One*
- OSPI scholarship information