



National Board Certification: Your Next Best Step in Career Advancement

What is it?

National Board Certification is a voluntary, high-level professional teaching credential created by the [National Board for Professional Teaching Standards \(NBPTS\)](#) to recognize accomplished teachers based on what they should know and be able to do.

Why now?

Early career educators are encouraged to consider National Board Certification to deepen skills, boost confidence, and build a strong foundation for growth. It promotes reflective practice, improves instruction, and offers early recognition and leadership opportunities.

Visit the [OSPI National Board Website](#) to learn more about:

Eligibility:

- Bachelor's or higher degree
- Full state licensure (Residency or Professional cert)
- Three years of teaching experience by the third year from beginning candidacy

Benefits:

- \$6,514 yearly bonus, up to \$5,000 high poverty bonus
- Up to 200 Clock Hours
- Meets state certification renewal requirements including 100 clock hours and STEM, CCDEI requirements
- Student learning impact
- Opportunities for instructional leadership

Conditional loan: covers 3 of 4 upfront component fees (\$1,425)

Support Webinars: Register for Candidate Info Sessions and Writing Workshops

Visit the [National Board Certification Website](#) to learn details about the certification process, certification areas and instructions.

Support Resources

- [OSPI's National Board Regional Coordinators](#)
- [25.26 Approved Cohort List](#)
- [Washington Education Association National Board Support](#)
- [Center for Strengthening the Teaching Profession National Board Support](#)

