

National Board Certification: What is it?

Grounded in the National Board's *Five Core Propositions* that describe what teachers should know and be able to do, the certification process is designed to collect standards-based evidence of accomplished practice. In all 25 certificate areas, candidates are required to complete four components. An assessment overview containing additional details is found at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/about-certification. The specific instructions will vary by certificate area, as will the standards assessed by each component.

Component 1: Content Knowledge

A computer-based assessment asks you to demonstrate your understanding of content knowledge and pedagogical practices for teaching your content area. You must demonstrate knowledge of developmentally appropriate content, which is necessary for teaching across the full age range and ability level of your chosen certificate area. This is assessed through the completion of three constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.

Component 2: Differentiation in Instruction

This classroom-based portfolio entry requires that candidates gather and analyze information about individual students' strengths and needs and use that information to design and implement instruction to advance student learning and achievement. You will submit selected work samples that demonstrate the students' growth over time and a written commentary that analyzes your instructional choices.

Component 3: Teaching Practice and Learning Environment

This is a classroom-based portfolio entry that requires video recordings of interactions between you and your students. You will also submit a written commentary in which you describe, analyze and reflect on your teaching and interactions with students. Both the video and the written commentary should demonstrate how you engage students and impact their learning.

Component 4: Effective and Reflective Practitioner

This portfolio entry requires you to demonstrate evidence of your abilities as an effective and reflective practitioner in developing and applying knowledge of your students; your use of assessments to effectively plan for and positively impact your students' learning; and your collaboration to advance students' learning and growth.

**For more information about how you can join the CPS/
CTU National Board Certification support cohort please
contact:**

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