



# NURTURING TEACHER LEADERSHIP

The **National Board Certification** Support Program  
for CPS teachers/counselors/librarians

Learn how you can earn an annual stipend

Accepting candidates for the **2025-27** school years

## ATTEND OUR VIRTUAL NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION FINAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**  
**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Zoom invitation to follow for all registrants**

Learn about pursuing National Board Certification, Illinois Master Teacher Certification, and the role of the Quest Center in supporting Chicago Public School teachers through the process.

### Requirements:

- 3 years teaching at current certificate level
- 3-year commitment to teaching in CPS
- Successful completion of professional profile

### MUST Register Online

<https://www.ctuf.org/questcenter/ntl/nationalboardcertification-informational-meeting/>

or use QR Code below  
When you register, be sure to include your personal email address so we can send you the Zoom invitation. It will go only to those interested teachers, counselors, and librarians who register.



**Celebrating CPS  
National Board  
Certified  
Teachers over  
the years**



**CHICAGO  
TEACHERS  
UNION**



For more information on **Nurturing Teacher Leadership**, or to register for the informational meeting, visit us online at [www.ctuf.org/NTL](https://www.ctuf.org/NTL) or contact Lynn Cherkasky-Davis at (312) 329-6274 or [LynnCherkasky-Davis@ctuf.org](mailto:LynnCherkasky-Davis@ctuf.org).

## What is Nurturing Teacher Leadership?

**Nurturing Teacher Leadership** is a 2-year program of professional development and candidate support that prepares CPS teachers for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification. It includes:

- ✓ Weekly professional development and small group facilitation
- ✓ Collaboration with a cohort of other CPS teachers going through the certification process – a professional learning community
- ✓ Technical support
- ✓ Assessment Center preparation simulations
- ✓ Individual mentoring
- ✓ Mentors who are active CPS National Board Certified Teachers
- ✓ Credits to move to Lane 5 on CPS salary scale

## NTL-The CTU/CPS support program for teachers, counselors & librarians

The Chicago Teachers Union Quest Center's **Nurturing Teacher Leadership (NTL)** program offers a small supportive group setting in which National Board Certification (NBC) candidates work collaboratively and are mentored by National Board Certified Teachers currently working in CPS. We read, study and discuss literature and research on current issues and concepts in education, applying our new or refined insights to our teaching/counseling/librarian practice. NTL provides multiple resources, support, and incentives. Our focus is on developing, improving and validating teaching/counseling/librarian practices, thereby increasing student achievement.

During weekly meetings, successful practices are recognized and shared. NTL facilitates all aspects of the intensive 2-year NBC process. We assist with the descriptive, analytical, interpretative and reflective writing required for the National Board portfolio. We provide technical assistance for required documentation of the work, facilitation with analyzing student work, professional development on topics of current standards-based pedagogical and content knowledge, individual coaching and mentoring, and preparation for the Content Knowledge Assessment exercises. NTL supports all CPS teachers, counselors and librarians throughout the entire certification process, providing technical, professional, intellectual and moral support. After candidates achieve National Board Certification, opportunities are available to support others—at a professional wage. The CTU Quest Center, the home of NTL, is *teachers/counselors/librarians working for teachers/counselors/librarians* to improve the achievement of Chicago's children.

## What does National Board Certification do for you?

NBPTS Certification offers teachers the opportunity for career advancement. It:

- ✓ provides an advanced credential consistent with what accomplished teachers/counselors should know and be able to do,
- ✓ certifies that you have the status of one who has met professional teaching/counseling standards,
- ✓ certifies that you have prepared a professional portfolio demonstrating your teaching abilities,
- ✓ certifies that you have fulfilled the rigorous Assessment Content Area Exams,
- ✓ entitles you to receive the NBPTS endorsement on your ISBE Professional Educator License, and
- ✓ current Illinois NBCTs who teach in 'hard to staff' schools for at least two years are eligible to receive a retention award from ISBE of \$8000!

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## Benefits of NTL/NBC

- ✓ Annual contractual, pensionable stipend
- ✓ 3-year REACH evaluation cycle for NBCTs
- ✓ Illinois NBPTS Master Certification
- ✓ 18 graduate credits offered
- ✓ Opportunity for a Masters Degree
- ✓ Up to 30 CPS Lane Placement credits awarded
- ✓ Professional learning community
- ✓ 2 Summer Institutes: 2025 - Aug 5th-8th (9:30AM-4:30PM)  
2026 - Aug dates TBD
- ✓ Public recognition
- ✓ 1st consideration for Teacher Leadership roles
- ✓ Coaching and mentoring incentives
- ✓ Full scholarship
- ✓ Current NBCTs teaching in 'hard to staff' schools for 2 years are eligible to receive a Retention Incentive of \$8000 from the state of Illinois
- ✓ Joining the ranks of more than 2490 CPS National Board Certified Teachers
- ✓ **Becoming a better teacher!**

