

# Get Certified and Take Your Teaching Career to the Next Level

## Are You Eligible?

To be eligible to achieve National Board Certification, teachers must meet the following education, employment, and licensure requirements. If you are a candidate in World Languages, you must also meet the language proficiency requirement.

Eligibility Requirement	Timeline for Meeting Requirement
<b>Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.</b> (Candidates for the Career and Technical Education certificate are required to hold a bachelor's degree only if their state required one for their current license.)	<u>Before</u> a candidate registers and purchases their first component for National Board Certification.
<b>Candidates must hold a valid state teaching license or meet the licensure requirements established by their state.</b>	<p><u>Before</u> a candidate registers and purchases their first component for National Board Certification.</p> <p>Note: A candidate must also hold a valid license for each of the three years they verify towards the employment requirement.</p>
<b>Candidates must have successfully completed three years of teaching at one or more early childhood, elementary, middle, or secondary schools to achieve Board certification.</b> (Applicants for ECYA/School Counseling must have successfully completed three years serving as a school counselor.)	<p>No later than June 30 of a candidate's third year of candidacy. *This requirement must be met for a candidate to be eligible to achieve certification.</p> <p>When a candidate meets the score requirements and all eligibility requirements, including the teaching employment requirement (if not already met), the candidate will achieve National Board certification.</p>
<b>World Language candidates: ACTFL language proficiency requirement.</b>	No later than June 30 of the assessment cycle in which a candidate completes initial testing on all four National Board components. When a candidate meets the ACTFL and score requirements and the teaching employment requirement (if not already met), the candidate will achieve National Board certification.