



## Guilford County Schools National Board Professional Teaching Standards Frequently Asked Questions

<b>GCS District Support</b>	
<b>Q:</b> Who is the GCS NBCTS Support Person?	<b>A:</b> Tonisha Walden ( <a href="mailto:waldent@gcsnc.com">waldent@gcsnc.com</a> )
<b>Q:</b> Do teachers get any Professional Leave days to complete their work during the certification period?	<p><b>A:</b> Yes. North Carolina provides every ELIGIBLE* initial candidate three days of paid professional leave. *Eligible is defined as those candidates who meet requirements for the state loan, whether or not they take the loan. Candidates are eligible for the state loan program if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are paid entirely from state funds</li> <li>have completed three full years in North Carolina Public Schools (This includes DOC, DHHS, Office of Juvenile Justice, and public charter schools)</li> <li>hold a valid, clear, continuing North Carolina teaching license</li> </ul>
<b>State Support</b>	
<b>Q:</b> Who is the contact at NCDPI?	<b>A:</b> Sonja Brown <a href="mailto:Sonja.Brown@dpi.nc.gov">Sonja.Brown@dpi.nc.gov</a>
<b>Q:</b> What types of Financial Incentives are available through the state for NBPTS?	<b>A:</b> In North Carolina, NBCTs move to a new salary schedule upon achieving National Board Certification, resulting in a 12 percent salary increase.
<b>Q:</b> Does NPBTS count towards licensure renewal or Continuing Education Credits (CEUs)?	<b>A:</b> The state grants full licensure renewal to all teachers completing the National Board Certification process, regardless of achievement. In addition, the state grants three days of release time to initial candidates who are eligible. Upon completion of the certification process, teachers who are in the 10-year National Board renewal cycle will earn two credits (one for content and one for literacy. Universities frequently provide graduate credit to teachers pursuing National Board Certification. Check with your local university to see if graduate credit is a possibility for you.
<b>Q:</b> Are there any financial supports (loans, grants, reimbursements available from the state for NBPTS)?	<b>A:</b> The state of North Carolina offers a low-cost loan program for eligible candidates seeking National Board Certification. After completing the National

Board application, candidates can apply for the loan through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction here. The first year of the loan is interest-free; the interest rate after that is 3 percent. Candidates have three years to repay the loan.

### General NBPTS Information

**Q:** What are the eligibility requirements to start the Board Certification process?

**A:** Effective September 19, 2022, the National Board will open access to educators interested in the Board certification process by allowing candidates to begin the process of Board certification before completing three (3) years of successful teaching. While this change allows candidates to begin the process earlier, educators will need to complete three years of teaching employment to become Board-certified.

- **Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.**
- **Candidates must hold a valid state teaching license or meet the licensure requirements established by their state.**
- **World Language candidates: ACTFL language proficiency requirement.**

**Q:** Resources are available for Candidates Seeking National Board Certification?

**A:** [NBPTS Candidate Center](#)  
[NBPTS – Support for Initial Certification](#)  
[NBPTS Candidate – FAQ's](#)  
[NBPTS – First Time and Returning Candidate Resources](#)