What **Support** is available for candidates?

A variety of candidate support opportunities are available throughout the state to help teachers with the process to achieve National Board certification. These opportunities include:

- Fee support
- State Web site
- University support programs
- Master’s degree programs
- Regional support programs
- District support programs

Information about district, university, regional, and fee support is available at [http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ps/te/nbpts.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ps/te/nbpts.asp)

Am I **Eligible** to apply for National Board certification?

Candidates must:

- Hold a bachelor’s degree
- Have at least three years of teaching experience with a preliminary or clear credential
- Possess a valid teaching license

All work of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is based on the following propositions:

**Five Core Propositions**

**Teachers** are committed to students and their learning.

**Teachers** know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.

**Teachers** are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.

**Teachers** think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.

**Teachers** are members of learning communities.

For more information, contact:

Juliet Barbero, Program Analyst
Professional Development and Curriculum Support Division
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 4309
Sacramento, CA 95814-9501
jbarbero@cde.ca.gov
The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), a nonprofit, nongovernmental agency, maintains high rigorous standards for accomplished teaching and provides a national voluntary system certifying teachers who meet these standards.

**Why Apply?**

- It’s an opportunity to be challenged and recognized as an accomplished professional.
- The process is personal and reflects your practice in your classroom.
- Local district incentives are available.
- A $20,000 state incentive award for teaching in a high priority school is available.

Applications may be submitted January through December at http://www.nbpts.org

**What is the Process to become a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT)?**

Over the course of a year, candidates submit evidence of both teaching skill and subject matter knowledge.

You will **develop a portfolio** to:

- Provide evidence of your teaching, including student work samples and classroom video segments.
- Provide evidence of community involvement and your own professional growth.
- Describe, analyze, and reflect on each section of your portfolio.

And you will **demonstrate content knowledge** by responding to six prompts at an assessment center.

> “National Board certification represents the acme of professional development.”
> —Mark Zucker, NBCT

> “There is a world of difference between ‘standards-based’ and ‘standardized’ when it comes to learning in the classroom, and the NBPTS helped me to realize that difference.”
> —Lisa Graham, NBCT