

## 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.



### Component 1: Content Knowledge (40% of your score)

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 (15% of your score)

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 (30% of your score)

This is a classroom-based portfolio entry that requires two 10 to 15 minute video recordings of interactions between you and your students (two different teaching strategies/groupings). 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 (15% of your score)

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.

## The Process Is More Flexible Than Ever!

### Set your own pace and sequence throughout the process.

Take up to **1, 2, or 3 years** to complete the four components. It's YOUR choice

Complete the components in any sequence

You have two opportunities to retake a component, if needed

### Cost and Financial Assistance

- Each component costs \$475, pay for the components separately as you go.
- Mississippi Teachers, the state will reimburse ALL first time candidates once the state receives a copy of your score report whether you certify or not. Mississippi teachers' retirement is based on the average of their four highest paid years. Being an NBCT in Mississippi can positively impact your retirement.
- If finances are still an issue, consider the following plan.  
**Year I** – Complete 2 components. **Pay As You Go** for these components. **Year II** - Once you receive the scores for these two components, apply for your state reimbursement. Use the reimbursement money to pay for your final two components. (Local banks are also an option for many candidates).
- Mississippi offers an additional \$6000 a year stipend (\$500 a month) to National Board Certified Teachers. An additional \$4000 stipend (yes, \$10,000 total. House Bill 207) is available for teachers in the following counties: Adams, Amite, Bolivar, Claiborne, Coahoma, Issaquena, Jefferson, Leflore, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington, and Wilkinson.

For additional information visit <http://wctp.olemiss.edu>