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**National Board Certified Teacher**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

* **What does it mean to be National Board Certified?** A National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) has demonstrated standards-based evidence of accomplished practice based on the five core propositions of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). These propositions are as follows:

(1) commitment to students and their learning

(2) knowledge of the subject taught and how to teach the subject

(3) managing and monitoring student learning

(4) systematic reflection and learning from the experience

(5) being members of learning communities

Certification is obtained through the NBPTS

* **What do I have to do to become a NBCT?** You must meet all certification requirements as set forth by the NBPTS. Certification includes completing 4 components consisting of three portfolio entries and a computer-based assessment. Go to the NBPTS website <https://www.nbpts.org/> for all information.
* **Can I renew my NBCT certification?** Yes. Certification is renewed every five years for anyone newly certified after 2017. Beginning in 2021, 10-year existing certificates that are expiring may be maintained at five-year intervals.
* **Can anyone become a NBCT?** You must meet the eligibility requirements of NBPTS. Go to the NBPTS website <https://www.nbpts.org/> to read all eligibility requirements.
* **How do I begin the process?** Go to the NBPTS website <https://www.nbpts.org/> to read about the certification process and creating an account.
* **How long do I have to complete certification?**
* All four components must be submitted within the first three years of candidacy.
* If all components are not passed during the first three years, NBPTS allows an additional two years in which to achieve certification.
* If a candidate is state-funded, all components must be submitted withing the first-year candidacy and certification achieved within three years.
* **Is there funding support for a NBCT candidate?** Yes. However, all funding is contingent upon the availability of funds.
* If a person has already begun the process (registered and purchased a component), he/she may apply for reimbursement of **one** component. All criteria must be met in the NBCT rules in section 4.4 in order to apply for reimbursement. Reimbursement and funding are contingent upon the NBCT advisory committee recommendation and state board approval.

**Anyone receiving state funding must submit all components within the current certification cycle.**

* **Is there funding support for renewing my NBCT certification?** No.
* **Is there funding support for retakes?** No.
* **What happens if I receive state funding but do not obtain certification?** A candidate must repay all funds to the ADE within 30 days of receiving official notice from the ADE.
* **What is the amount of bonus I will receive?** NBCT bonus amounts are determined by the previous year poverty status of the school and the district in which the educator is employed, the length of time since certification, and the year in which the NBCT began the certification process in accordance with Act 937 of 2017. Bonuses may be $2,500, $5,000, or $10,000 in accordance of Act 937 of 2017.
* **What is the poverty status of my school and district?** Anyone may go to the ADE homepage <https://www.arkansased.gov/> and access “My School Info” to find the poverty status of any school and/or district.
* **How long will I receive a bonus?** The number of years a bonus may be received is for a total of ten (10) years. Those years are determined by:
* the year in which the NBCT certification process began and/or the year of certification, and the unrounded poverty status percentage of the school and/or district in accordance with Act 937 of 2017.
* **When will I receive my bonus?** Bonus payments are made through the districts between March and June of each year.