


Choosing the Right Certificate

Information by Certificate Area



*National Board Certification
Promotes Better Teaching,
Better Learning, Better Schools*

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This document is a reference guide for candidates seeking National Board Certification to use when deciding which of the 25 certificate areas, listed below, to apply for.

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Early and Middle Childhood/Art

The Early and Middle Childhood/Art certificate is appropriate for teachers who know the making and content of the visual arts and who teach visual arts to students ages 3–12. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Early Childhood and Middle Childhood/Art Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 3–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Art

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Art certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach visual arts to students ages 11–18+ and who know the making and content of the visual arts. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Art Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Career and Technical Education

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Career and Technical Education certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach career and technical information subjects and who know industry-specific subject matter. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Career and Technical Education Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Career and Technical Education certificate area includes the following paths:

- **Business, Marketing, and Financial Services.** Teachers in this path focus on education for, and about, business. The academic and occupational content of this career cluster addresses business, management, and administration; finance; and marketing, sales, and services.
- **Community Services.** Teachers in this path instruct students in government services, law and public safety, health services, and human services. Government services comprise the planning and implementation of public administration activities on a local, state, and national level, while law and public safety addresses law enforcement, correctional services, and fire science. Health services encompass diagnostic, therapeutic, and medical laboratory services, as well as nursing, health informatics, and health care administration and management. The area of human services includes child and family services, counseling and mental health, consumer services, food and nutrition, cosmetology, interpretation, and teacher training.
- **Decorative Arts and Design.** Teachers in this path provide students with the technical and business skill sets they need to obtain employment in major industries or as artisans in cottage industries, such as apparel design and clothing construction, ceramics and pottery, floral arrangement, interior design and decorating, jewelry making, and textile design.
- **Engineering, Design, and Fabrication.** Teachers in this path prepare students to undertake tasks such as building electronics, repairing roadways, constructing buildings, maintaining and servicing power plants, and designing new products. They introduce their students to new tools and machinery, technologies and materials, processing and feedback controls, and outputs and robotics.
- **Information Systems and Technology, Communications, and the Arts.** Teachers in this path show their students how to use words, sounds, signs, and symbols to create meaning. Practitioners specialize in a range of fields—including communications and journalism, fine and performing arts, information systems and technology, and media arts—but the purpose of their activities centers on communication.

- **Leisure and Recreation Services.** Teachers in this path prepare their students for careers in culinary arts, entertainment management, event marketing, food and beverage service, hospitality and tourism, and sports management. Teachers have a broad knowledge of business functions related to resource and information management, communications, and customer service, which they couple with technical skills within their field of expertise.
- **Natural Resources.** Teachers in this path teach courses in agriculture, food, and natural resources. They have an in-depth understanding of life science and possess industry-specific knowledge related to commerce, communication, economics, entrepreneurship, finance, and policy within the realm of natural resources. The coursework that these teachers provide is often classified within seven broad categories: agribusiness systems; animal systems; energy systems; food products and processing systems; natural resource systems; plant systems; and power, structural, and technical systems.
- **Transportation Systems and Services.** Teachers in this path specialize in vehicle mechanics and transportation networks. Training in this career pathway provides students with the experience they need to pursue careers as automotive technicians, aviation pilots and mechanics, heavy equipment operators, collision repair specialists, and warehouse managers, among others.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early and Middle Childhood/English as a New Language

The Early and Middle Childhood/English as a New Language certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach linguistically and culturally diverse learners ages 3–12 and who know the range of the early and middle childhood curriculum. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the English as a New Language Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. For each portfolio component, you must have access to a class of at least 3 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 3–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early and Middle Childhood/English as a New Language certificate area includes the following paths:

- **Path 1** is an assessment of the English as a New Language Standards and is designed for bilingual teachers (the term "bilingual" is used here in a nonspecific sense to identify the teacher who uses both English and another language in instruction) who would like to achieve certification within the English as a New Language framework while also demonstrating their accomplishment as Early Childhood or Middle Childhood Generalists.

All candidates must show in their portfolio entries that they are fostering English language development within their bilingual context. At the assessment center, they will complete exercises in their respective generalist areas.

- **Path 2** is also an assessment of the English as a New Language Standards and is designed for teachers who identify themselves as English Language Development Specialists (ELDS) (ELDS is used here to identify the teacher who is an English language development specialist and who may or may not use the students' first language in instruction).

All candidates must show in their portfolio entries that they are fostering English language development. At the assessment center, they will complete exercises focusing on their knowledge of English language development.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/English as a New Language

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/English as a New Language certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach linguistically and culturally diverse learners ages 11–18+ and who know the range of the early adolescence through young adulthood curriculum. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the English as a New Language Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. For each portfolio component, you must have access to a class of at least 3 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/English as a New Language certificate area includes the following paths:

- **Path 1** is an assessment of the English as a New Language Standards and is designed for bilingual teachers (the term "bilingual" is used here in a nonspecific sense to identify the teacher who uses both English and another language in instruction) who would like to achieve certification within the English as a New Language framework while also demonstrating their accomplishment as Early Adolescence (EA) or Adolescence and Young Adulthood (AYA) content specialists in Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies–History.

All candidates must show in their portfolio entries that they are fostering English language development within their bilingual context. At the assessment center, they will complete exercises in their respective content areas.

- **Path 2** is also an assessment of the English as a New Language Standards and is designed for teachers who identify themselves as English Language Development Specialists (ELDS) (ELDS is used here to identify the teacher who is an English language development specialist and who may or may not use the students' first language in instruction).

All candidates must show in their portfolio entries that they are fostering English language development. At the assessment center, they will complete exercises focusing on their knowledge of English language development.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence/English Language Arts

The Early Adolescence/English Language Arts certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 11–15 and who know the full range of the school language arts curriculum, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the English Language Arts Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–15. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Adolescence and Young Adulthood/English Language Arts

The Adolescence and Young Adulthood/English Language Arts certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 14–18+ and who know the full range of the school language arts curriculum, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the English Language Arts Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 14–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/Exceptional Needs Specialist

The Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/Exceptional Needs Specialist certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages birth through 21+ years* with exceptional needs, and who know the philosophical, historical, and legal foundations of exceptional needs education. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Exceptional Needs Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. For each portfolio component, you must have access to at least 3 students* with exceptional needs. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

Featuring students ages birth-3 years old: While the National Board Standards range from birth to 21+, when selecting your student(s), keep in mind that infants and toddlers may not offer the best opportunity to demonstrate evidence of accomplished teaching standards. Instructions require candidates to demonstrate teaching practice in a classroom or educational setting. To that end, it's permissible to work with a colleague to teach a lesson or unit in their classroom for Components 2, 3, and 4.

Candidates applying for certification in the Exceptional Needs Specialist certificate area must select a specialty area when applying. The following path descriptions may help you determine the specialty area that best fits your teaching situation:

- **Deaf/Hard of Hearing (birth to 21+ years).** Teachers in this path work with students from birth to 21+ years of age with any degree of hearing loss, from mild unilateral to profound bilateral loss, in self-contained to home or generic education environments, and via multiple languages and communication modes.
- **Early Childhood (birth to 8 years).** Teachers in this path work with students from birth to 8 years of age with special needs. These teachers may serve families with children who have special needs in a family-centered approach to early intervention, children who are at risk for special needs, and children with a wide range of special needs.
- **Gifted and Talented (3 to 18+ years).** Teachers in this path work with students with gifts and talents from 3 to 18+ years of age.
- **Mild/Moderate Disabilities (5 to 21+ years).** Teachers in this path work with students from 5 to 21+ years of age with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities. The students served by these teachers may have learning disabilities, mild to moderate intellectual disability, attention deficit disorders, developmental delays, autism, emotional disturbance, behavioral disorders, or health impairments.
- **Severe and Multiple Disabilities (5 to 21+ years).** Teachers in this path work with students from 5 to 21+ years of age with a range of cognitive abilities, often accompanied by sensory, physical, emotional, and/or health impairments. The students

served by these teachers may have severe or profound intellectual disability, traumatic brain injury, uncontrolled seizure disorders, dual sensory impairments, autism, neurological impairments, physical impairments, and/or health impairments.

- **Visual Impairments (birth to 21+ years).** Teachers in this path work with students from birth to 21+ years of age with visual impairment. The students served by these teachers may have low vision or severe to total visual impairment.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

*Students need not be seen in the context of a classroom group. Teachers, working one on one with IEPd or IFSPd students under federal or state mandated special education laws are eligible to pursue this certificate. In most states, the students included under these mandates would be ages birth to 21. In states where the mandate extends special education beyond age 21, teachers should contact National Board prior to applying to determine whether their teaching context meets the eligibility requirements for candidacy.

Early Childhood/Generalist

The Early Childhood/Generalist certificate is appropriate for teachers of students ages 3–8 who engage their students in all subject areas addressed in the Early Childhood Generalist Standards. Some Generalists are assigned to teach a single subject while others are assigned multiple subjects, for example, humanities teachers or mathematics/science teachers. Some focus their teaching on interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary lessons while others may use such curricular approaches only occasionally. However, all Generalists, without regard to their assignment, practice in a manner designed to advance student learning in two or more subjects. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Early Childhood Generalist Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 3–8. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The computer-based assessment will test knowledge of multiple subjects from the standpoint of teaching children of the appropriate age group. For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Middle Childhood/Generalist

The Middle Childhood/Generalist certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 7–12 and who know the range of the middle grades curriculum: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and history, the arts, and health. Some Generalists are assigned to teach a single subject while others are assigned multiple subjects, for example, humanities teachers or mathematics/science teachers. Some focus their teaching on interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary lessons while others may use such curricular approaches only occasionally. However, all Generalists, without regard to their assignment, practice in a manner designed to advance student learning in two or more subjects. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Middle Childhood Generalist Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 7–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The computer-based assessment will test knowledge of multiple subjects from the standpoint of teaching children of the appropriate age group. For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Health Education

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Health Education certificate is appropriate for teachers of students ages 11–18+. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards has developed 11 Standards of accomplished practice for health education teachers. They each describe an important facet of accomplished teaching; they often occur concurrently because of the seamless quality of teaching. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Health Education Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

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Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/Library Media

The Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/Library Media certificate is appropriate for Library Media specialists who teach students ages 3–18+ and who know the range of information literacy, instructional collaboration, and the integration of technology. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Library Media Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class in which 51% of the students are ages 3–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early and Middle Childhood/Literacy: Reading–Language Arts

The Early and Middle Childhood/Literacy: Reading–Language Arts certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 3–12 and who know the range of the Literacy: Reading–Language Arts curriculum: reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing. Some Literacy: Reading–Language Arts teachers are assigned to teach a single student at a time while others are assigned small groups or whole classes of students. Some focus their teaching on a prescribed approach to teaching literacy while others may teach a broader, more open curriculum. However, all Literacy: Reading–Language Arts teachers, without regard to their assignment, practice in a manner designed to advance student learning in Literacy: Reading–Language Arts. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Literacy: Reading–Language Arts Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 1 student, in which the student(s) are ages 3–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence/Mathematics

The Early Adolescence/Mathematics certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 11–15 and who know the full range of the school mathematics curriculum: numbers and operations; algebra and functions; geometry; discrete mathematics; trigonometry; data analysis and statistics; and calculus as described in the Mathematics Standards. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Mathematics Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–15. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Mathematics

The Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Mathematics certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 14–18+ and who know the full range of the school mathematics curriculum: numbers and operations, algebra and functions; geometry; discrete mathematics; trigonometry; data analysis and statistics; and calculus. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Mathematics Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 14–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early and Middle Childhood/Music

The Early and Middle Childhood/Music certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach music to students ages 3–12, who know the full range of the school music curriculum, and who have highly specialized knowledge in choral, instrumental, or general music. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Music Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 3–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early and Middle Childhood/Music certificate area includes the following paths:

- Band
- Orchestra
- Vocal

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Music

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Music certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 11–18+, who know the full range of the school music curriculum, and who have highly specialized knowledge in choral, instrumental, or general music. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Music Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Music certificate area includes the following paths:

- Band
- Orchestra
- Vocal

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early and Middle Childhood/Physical Education

The Early and Middle Childhood/Physical Education certificate is appropriate for teachers of students ages 3–12 who teach physical education programs. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Physical Education Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 3–12. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Physical Education

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/Physical Education certificate is appropriate for teachers of students ages 11–18+ who teach physical education programs. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Physical Education Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/School Counseling

The Early Childhood through Young Adulthood/School Counseling certificate is appropriate for counselors who work with students in grades preK–12 (ages 3–18+) in educational settings. These school counselors may work with individuals, small groups, a whole class, or the entire school to advance student learning academically, emotionally, and socially, and in the area of career development. Some may focus their counseling primarily in the area of student assistance, college planning, academic testing, or a more general guidance delivery model. However, all school counselors, without regard to their assignment, practice in a manner designed to advance student learning in the areas of academic, personal/social, and career development. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the School Counseling Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a whole class, a small group, and an individual student, in which the student(s) are in grades preK–12 (ages 3–18+), not in university/college settings. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence/Science

The Early Adolescence/Science certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 11–15 and who know the full range of the school science curriculum: physical sciences, life sciences, and earth and space sciences. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Science Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–15. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Science

The Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Science certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 14–18+ and who know the full range of the school science curriculum: physical sciences, life sciences, and earth and space sciences. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Science Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 14–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Science certificate area includes the following paths:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth/Space
- Physics

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence/Social Studies–History

The Early Adolescence/Social Studies–History certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 11–15 and who know the full range of the school social studies–history curriculum: United States History, World History, Economics, Political Science, and Geography. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Social Studies–History Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–15. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Social Studies–History

The Adolescence and Young Adulthood/Social Studies–History certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach students ages 14–18+ and who know the full range of the school social studies–history curriculum: United States History, World History, Economics, Political Science, and Geography. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the Social Studies–History Standards.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 14–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered no earlier than the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/World Languages

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/World Languages certificate is appropriate for teachers who teach Spanish or French to students ages 11–18+ and whose functional ability in the language they teach is at an advanced level. To successfully achieve certification in this area, you will be assessed on whether your content knowledge and teaching practice meet the World Languages Standards.

World Languages candidates must meet the National Board World Languages Standards for language proficiency by providing official ACTFL Speaking and Writing Proficiency Certificates with Advanced Low ratings from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), in addition to meeting the certification requirements listed below.

Your certification assessment will include

- **one computer-based assessment** of content knowledge administered at a testing center. You must complete 3 constructed response exercises and 45 selected response items.
- **three portfolio assessments** in which you demonstrate your accomplished teaching practice. You must have access to a class of at least 6 students, in which 51% of the students are ages 11–18+. Except when otherwise noted in component-specific instructions, all evidence of your work with students must be gathered during the 12 months prior to the opening of the ePortfolio Submission Window.

The Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood/World Languages certificate area includes the following paths:

- Spanish
- French

For information about the full certification process, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, read the *Guide to National Board Certification*. Find detailed information about the above assessment components for each certificate area at www.nbpts.org/certification/candidate-center/. The [EAYA World Languages Candidates Prerequisite FAQ](#) explains ACTFL certification requirements in detail. If you have further questions, you may wish to discuss your teaching situation with professional colleagues, your school faculty, a National Board Certified Teacher, your faculty support group, or a local-level administrator who is directing a National Board program.

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