

Renewal at a Glance

For NBCTs who certified prior to 2017

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

Choosing to Renew Your Certification

If you certified prior to 2017, your National Board Certification was awarded for a period of 10 years. As a National Board Certified Teacher® (NBCT®), you must complete the renewal process prior to your certification end date and you can only renew certification in your original certificate area. During each renewal decade, NBCTs have two opportunities to renew their certification; first in the eighth/eighteenth year and for a second time during the ninth/nineteenth year.

As you approach your tenth or twentieth year of National Board Certification®, you have the opportunity to renew your certification and, in doing so, your commitment to accomplished teaching. Renewing your certification validates that you have continued your professional involvement in a variety of areas in a way that is consistent with the high and rigorous standards that initial certification represents.

Important: The National Board has revised its policy from renewal to Maintenance of Certification (MOC). Once introduced in 2021, the National Board will no longer extend certificates through the current 10-year renewal process. Read more about the new MOC process on page 7.

The renewal submission, called the Profile of Professional Growth® (PPG), is the vehicle by which you, as an NBCT, articulate and examine how your teaching practices continue to align with the Five Core Propositions in your initial certificate area. You may begin as early as your first year of certification to plan for the renewal process. Starting early will help you track, prepare, and develop the eventual documentation of your professional growth experience through NBCT renewal.

The professional growth activities in which an NBCT is involved include the ongoing development of certificate-specific content knowledge, as well as pedagogical and technological skills, obtained through workshops, courses, and readings of current professional literature. The renewal process is your opportunity to provide sufficient evidence of such continued professional growth that has focused on increased student learning.

Eligibility Requirements for Renewing Your Certification

- Your initial or renewal certificate is still valid.
- Your teaching license is current and unencumbered.
- You are in the eighth/eighteenth, ninth/nineteenth, or tenth/twentieth year of certification. [See the Renewal Calendar](#) to determine your application window.

Benefits of Renewing Your Certification

- Maintain your designation as a National Board Certified Teacher and the right to use “NBCT” as a credential.
- Reflect on how your teaching practice continues to support student learning.
- Stay connected through National Board® programs, products, and services.
- Preserve your professional stature even after you retire, leave the classroom, or change careers.

Important: If you are not actively teaching but plan to establish a relationship and work with a colleague’s students (in grades Pre-K through 12) in order to complete the renewal process, then you must meet the teaching licensure requirements of the state.

Building Your Profile of Professional Growth (PPG)

In contrast to the process for your initial certification, which required the development of ten independent submissions (four independent portfolio entries and responses to six assessment center exercises), the Profile of Professional Growth is a single submission composed of three interrelated components and a reflection. These components draw upon a single group of Professional Growth Experiences (PGEs) that you select.

You can find detailed instructions for preparing, developing, and submitting the renewal components in the *Profile of Professional Growth* publication on the National Board [website](#).

- **Component 1.** This requires you to submit responses to prompts related to four areas of your professional growth that you identify as important. These four areas may have begun before certification but have evolved to become the focus of professional growth since certification. These Professional Growth Experiences must include current content and/or pedagogical knowledge and acquisition of effective and appropriate use of technology, and they must be ongoing, varied, and multifaceted. They must reflect your continuous commitment and contributions to the professional activities that ultimately have an impact on student learning.
- **Component 2.** This requires you to choose one of your Professional Growth Experiences featured in Component 1 and demonstrate its application in the same content and developmental level as your original certification. This component requires a date-stamped 10-minute video recording in which you demonstrate pre-K–12 classroom teaching. This video must be recorded no earlier than September 1 of your eighth/eighteenth year of National Board Certification and no later than the submission deadline of your tenth/twentieth and final year of National Board Certification. The video and accompanying Written Commentary must provide evidence of student learning in an environment that ensures equity of access, promotes an appreciation of diversity, and demonstrates certificate-specific content knowledge.
- **Component 3.** This requires that you choose a Professional Growth Experience other than the one featured in Component 2 and demonstrate its application in one of several options. You may choose to create a 6-minute video recording of your teaching practice with professional colleagues or pre-K–12 learners (adults or students), or you may choose to feature a learner’s work sample. The basis for this component must be a different Professional Growth Experience from that used in Component 2 and must demonstrate either a direct or indirect impact on student learning.
- **Reflection.** You must also submit a written reflection that requires you to analyze the connections and patterns among the three components of your Profile of Professional Growth. You must focus on challenges encountered as well as discuss plans for continued professional growth and efforts to impact student learning.

If you have previously renewed, your PGEs must include current content and/or pedagogical knowledge as well as acquisition of effective and appropriate use of technology, and be ongoing, varied, and multifaceted. These areas of your professional growth that you identify, which may have begun before certification but have evolved to become the focus of professional growth since certification, must reflect your continuous commitment and contributions to the professional activities that ultimately have an impact on student learning.

Note that the samples of products, learner work, and videos of accomplished teaching practice that you submit for Certification Renewal must be new and original work from your current decade of teaching and must demonstrate evolution and change in your area of professional growth. If you are no longer in the classroom or teaching in a different subject area, you may borrow a classroom in the area and development level in which you certified.

Understanding How Your PPG Is Evaluated

For the renewal process, one or more NBCTs independently and holistically evaluate the three interrelated components and reflection, which constitute the Profile of Professional Growth, as a single entity. Assessors are trained extensively to evaluate this body of information and to minimize the effects of personal biases on the decision they make when viewing the evidence. Based on the entire body of evidence that you as the renewal candidate submit, assessors then make a single decision—to *renew* or *not renew*. The successful renewal candidate sufficiently demonstrates the following accomplishments:

- professional growth since initial certification
- meaningful and rigorous learning experiences tied to content knowledge
- commentary reflecting that current National Board Standards continue to be embedded in the NBCT's practice

The renewal rubric governs the type of evidence the evaluators will look for in each renewal candidate's submission. In contrast to the four performance levels that comprise the scoring rubrics for initial certification, there are only two levels for the renewal rubric: *renewed* and *not renewed*. The language in the rubric is constructed so that it directly values what is being asked for in the renewal instrument. The evaluation rubric is identical for all candidates seeking renewal status, regardless of the certificate area.

The rubric below is for a candidate whose certification is successfully renewed. If a certificate is not renewed, then the candidate provided insufficient evidence in the included areas.

Evaluation Rubric for Renewal Certification

The renewal candidate has provided sufficient evidence of the identification of important needs in his or her professional context; of professional growth in areas which address those needs in a variety of rich and powerful contexts, including areas of content and/or pedagogical knowledge; and has provided sufficient evidence of the application of professional growth in ways that have a meaningful impact on student learning. The renewal candidate has provided sufficient evidence of the acquisition of knowledge of current technology and/or effective and appropriate incorporation of technology into teaching and learning; and has drawn on and/or contributed to the resources of the school, district and/or community. The candidate has provided evidence of teaching practice in his or her certificate-specific area in ways that recognize the needs of students, ensure equity of access and promote appreciation of diversity, and provide relevant and meaningful instruction for students. The candidate has provided evidence of professional growth that has evolved since certification and is varied and/or multifaceted. Although there may be unevenness in the level of evidence of professional growth presented, overall, there is sufficient evidence of professional growth since certification to support renewal of certification.

Recommendations for Focus

Starting in your eighth/eighteenth year of certification, you have a two-year window in which to complete the renewal process. If you begin the renewal process in the eighth/eighteenth year, you will have the opportunity to try again in your ninth/nineteenth year in the event your certification is not renewed. If your certification is not renewed on the initial attempt, you will receive **recommendations for focus** generated as part of the evaluation process. These recommendations for focus are based on the evaluation rubric and specify key aspects of your submission that could be improved with stronger evidence.

Important: If you apply for renewal in your second year of eligibility and your certification is not renewed, you will not be able to retry as a renewal candidate and will be required to successfully complete the four components of the National Board assessment in order to remain Board-certified.

Two areas will be addressed in the decision letter for candidates who are not renewed:

1. *Were there any major omissions that resulted in the not renewed decision?*
A major omission would include missing evidence, such as failure to submit evidence for any of the three components or omission of a major part of one, such as video, learner work, or Written Commentary. In addition to the three components you must submit a written reflection.
2. *What is a list of the key aspects identified in the rubric?*
The letter indicates whether there was an appropriate level of evidence or if the level of evidence for this particular area needs to be strengthened.

The table below is a sample of the recommendations for focus. The left side of the table lists the areas of evidence that the evaluation rubric for renewal certification requires. The right side lists in boldface the recommendations to strengthen the evidence in areas that need improvement. Areas in which an appropriate level of evidence was provided are noted as such.

Essential Guidelines

The process for renewal of National Board Certification differs from the initial certification process in several ways. Therefore, you should keep these guidelines in mind as you prepare your PPG:

- Your PPG must demonstrate and document your continued commitment to professional growth, to increased student learning, and to maintaining high and rigorous standards in the same content area and with students at a similar age range and developmental level as demonstrated in your initial certification.
- The three components and reflection that constitute the PPG are interrelated and evaluated holistically as a single entity. As a renewal candidate, you will receive either a *renewed* or *not renewed* decision. Note that an omission of evidence for any of the three components or reflection, or omission of a major part of one, such as video, learner work, or Written Commentary, will result in an automatic *not renewed* decision.
- You will need to read and review the most current Standards in your initial certificate area as part of the renewal process. Your certificate area's Standards may have been revised so that they reflect the most current teaching practices in each subject area.
- Students featured in Component 2 of your PPG must be in the age range and developmental level for the certificate in which you were initially certified. The content focus of the lesson must be from your initial certificate area. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an automatic *not renewed* decision.
- There is no score banking for renewals. If you do not achieve renewal in your first year of eligibility, you must resubmit your entire PPG in the second year of eligibility. If you apply for renewal in your final year of eligibility and are not renewed, you will not be able to retry as a renewal candidate and will be required to successfully complete the four components of the National Board assessment in order to remain Board-certified.
- If you are resubmitting your PPG, in the second year of eligibility you may modify as much or as little of your original submission as you feel necessary. You should read the recommendations for focus when preparing your resubmission to determine which evidence levels in your Profile need to be strengthened.

Identification of needs	You need to strengthen the level of evidence you have provided in this area.
Acquisition or deepening of current or certificate- specific content knowledge and/or pedagogical knowledge	You have provided an appropriate level of evidence in this area.
Acquisition and/or effective and appropriate use of current technology	You need to strengthen the level of evidence you have provided in this area
Involvement of others	You need to strengthen the level of evidence you have provided in this area
Demonstration of Standards-based relevant and meaningful instruction	You have provided an appropriate level of evidence in this area.
Equity of access and appreciation of diversity	You have provided an appropriate level of evidence in this area.
Impact on student learning	You have provided an appropriate level of evidence in this area.

Continuing Your Journey with National Board Certification

You may wish to attempt the renewal process in your first year of the two-year eligibility window. This offers you the chance to try again the following year in the event that your certification is not renewed. If you apply for renewal in your second year of eligibility and your certification is not renewed, you will not be able to retry as a renewal candidate. To apply for Certification Renewal, you must submit your application and payment, via your National Board [account](#), no later than February 28.

The following timeline provides an example of your schedule of commitments. For more information on the renewal process, National Board policies, and important dates and deadlines, refer to [Renewal Guide to National Board Certification](#), located on the [Renewal Candidate Resources](#) page of the National Board [website](#).

Renewal Planner

Step	To Do	Year 1-7	Year 8/18	Year 9/19	Year 10/20
1	Prepare and document PGEs throughout your career. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop certificate-specific knowledge, as well as pedagogical and technological skills. Track and plan for eventual documentation of Professional Growth Experiences. 	after initial certification or renewal			
2	Apply for Certification Renewal in either year of eligibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit your renewal application via your National Board account. 		Sept. 1-Feb. 28 (1st opportunity)	Sept. 1-Feb. 28 (2nd opportunity)	
3	Submit the \$1,250 fee.			Sept. 1-Feb. 28	Sept. 1-Feb. 28
4	Develop and upload your PPG by deadline. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access the PPG online. Complete classroom-based components and written reflection elements of PPG. Organize, upload and submit complete PPG. 			Apr. 1-mid-May	Apr. 1-mid-May
5	Receive renewal decision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If renewal is achieved, congratulations! Consider continuing your journey by mentoring other candidates. If renewal is not achieved in the first year of eligibility, receive recommendations for focus. Use recommendations in planning, preparation, and development of renewal entry in the second year of eligibility. Resubmit renewal application and fees in second year of eligibility. 			November	November

**It is essential to update your contact information throughout the course of your certification to ensure that your National Board records are current. To do so, visit your National Board [account](#).*

Maintenance of Certification (MOC)

As in other professions, Maintenance of Certification allows National Board Certified Teachers to demonstrate to colleagues, the public, students and themselves that they continue to meet high standards of accomplished practice. The Maintenance of Certification program will allow teachers to demonstrate they have expanded their knowledge, skills, and practice in keeping with developments in their field. Our goal is to ensure all National Board Certified Teachers can continue to experience professional learning and growth as a practitioner while maintaining a focus on student learning. This revised policy is aligned with the majority of state licensure systems and is designed to make initial and ongoing certification affordable, efficient, and professionally meaningful, so it can become the norm in the teaching profession. The MOC process is being developed.

Rollout of MOC

The MOC process will take effect for candidates who certified in 2017 and later. Beginning in 2021, as existing 10-year certificates expire, NBCTs will extend their certificate at five-year intervals through the new MOC process. Please refer to the table below to see how the change may affect you. For the latest and most up-to-date information on the MOC process, visit our website at www.nbpts.org/national-board-certification/renewal/.

Process Used to Extend Certificate Depending on Certificate Expiration				
When does your certificate expire?	What process will you use to extend your certificate?	Then your certificate will expire in...	What process will then be used to extend your certificate?	And your certificate will expire again in...
2017		2027		2032
2018	Renewal	2028		2033
2019		2029		2034
2020		2030		2035
2021	You will use either Renewal (1st opportunity in 2019-20) and/or	2031	MOC	2036
2021	Maintenance of Certification (MOC) (2nd opportunity in 2020-21)	2026		2031
2022		2027	MOC	2032
2023		2028		2033
2024		2029		2034
2025	MOC	2030		2035
2026		2031		2036
2027		2032		2037
2028		2033		2038

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