

# NATIONAL BOARD

*for Professional Teaching Standards®*

Subject: Covid-19 - Update From The National Board

As circumstances change rapidly, we hope you and your families are well. We know COVID-19-related schedule modifications and school closures continue to have a significant impact on you and your fellow teachers. To assist you with the National Board certification process, here is this week's update addressing modifications we have made.

## **Completing the COVID-19 Exception form**

You **must complete the [COVID-19 exception form](#)** by April 30, 2020 if you want to submit a component in October 2020, defer a component to 2020-2021, switch a component, or withdraw a component.

Note: When completing the form, you will need to make a separate selection for each component. If you have not purchased a particular component, or are not choosing one of the available options, select the "No change required or component not purchased option" for that component.

You **do not** need to complete the exception form for components you plan to complete by the extended spring 2020 deadlines. As a reminder, the extended spring deadlines are:

- July 15, 2020 for Component 1 testing
- June 12, 2020 for submission of Components 2, 3, or 4

We know these are uncertain and challenging times and that it may be difficult to select an option. Rest assured that we continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 and will make adjustments to the deadlines and options provided if necessary.

## **Testing Component 1**

If your appointment was cancelled due to a site closure, you will have received a notice of cancellation via email. You may schedule a new appointment now and will have until July 15 to test. You can check the status of your appointment [online](#) or by phone at 1-888-288-3028, Monday – Friday from 7am – 7pm, CST.

If you are currently scheduled to test Component 1 and have an appointment scheduled for June 15 or earlier, you are encouraged to keep your appointment.

The National Board is committed to providing testing capacity for candidates and will provide updates to candidates based on any further changes in site availability.

## **Updates to Clarification on Portfolio Submission Requirements**

The [Clarification on Portfolio Submission Requirements](#) web page has been updated with new guidance for initial and retake certification candidates on the following:

- Evidence Collected Online - Guidance for Components 2 and 4
- Video of Virtual Classrooms - new subsection "Editing for Anonymity"
- Time Period for Evidence Collection: further information on Component 3 videos and Component 4 evidence

### **Upcoming Webinars**

- Webinar on Tuesday, April 14 at 4:30pm ET. Taping Virtual Lessons: Review of Guidance and Tips. [Register here.](#)
- Webinar on Wednesday, April 15 at 4:30pm ET. ATLAS 4 Candidates. [Register here.](#)
- Visit our [COVID-19](#) for additional webinars, to be scheduled.

### **Third-Party Payers**

Later this week, we will be sending an email to all Third-Party Payers to reiterate the options that are available to candidates and provide additional detail about how funds will be handled for candidates choosing each option.

We have prepared a letter for candidates to send to Third-Party Payers (e.g., school districts, state agencies, nonprofit organizations) that financially support their candidacy. This letter outlines the National Board's candidate options and requests that Third-Party Payers introduce similar flexibilities to support candidates during the Covid-19 pandemic. [You can access the letter here.](#)

We will continue to publish information and resources on our dedicated [Covid-19 page](#), and we will provide another update next Monday, April 20, focused on supports available to you.

Together,

Peggy Brookins, NBCT and the National Board team