

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 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 [exception form](#) by April 30, 2020 if you want to submit in October 2020, defer your Renewal submission until spring 2021, or withdraw.

You **do not** need to complete the exception form if you plan to submit your Profile of Professional Growth by the extended spring deadline of June 12, 2020.

Deferring and Your 10-Year Certification:

All Renewal candidates have the option to defer submission of their Profile of Professional Growth to the 2020-2021 cycle - even those NBCTs currently in their last/final Renewal attempt. Additionally, those who defer to the next cycle will be able to complete the current Renewal process and extend their certificate for ten years from the current expiration date.

If your certificate is currently set to expire in 2020, do not worry; if you defer, we will add a year to your current certification so it expires in 2021*. If you successfully renew next year, your certificate will be extended to 2030 (the year it would have expired had you renewed this year).

If your certificate is currently set to expire in 2021 and you defer, you will complete the current Renewal process next year. Upon successfully renewing, your certificate will be extended to 2031. If you are not successful in your Renewal attempt, you will be given the option to complete Maintenance of Certification (MOC) in 2021-22, and we will add a year to your current certification so it expires in 2022. Upon successful completion of MOC, your certificate will be extended to 2027.

**Note: We are working to create a verification letter you can share as needed to confirm the one year extension to your certificate. More details will be provided soon.*

Updates to Clarification on Portfolio Submission Requirements

We have published new guidance for Renewal candidates on the [Clarification on Portfolio Submission Requirements](#) page:

- Video of Virtual Classrooms - new subsection "Editing for Anonymity"
- Classroom Layout Forms

Upcoming Webinars

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

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 recognize that deferring your Renewal by a year could impact financial incentives (e.g., salary increases or stipends) that you currently receive. The National Board is engaged in outreach to states to support the continuation of these financial incentives for the 11th year of your certificate. We will soon provide candidates with additional tools and resources to help you advocate to maintain your stipends, both at the state and district level.

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