

NATIONAL BOARD

for Professional Teaching Standards®

Sub: COVID-19 and National Board Certification - March 30 Update

Like many of you, we have spent the past week thinking about students, teachers and communities and how the COVID-19 crisis has affected people around the world. We also know your National Board journey has been affected. Today, we are announcing updates on deadlines and confirming that we are developing options for candidates who are unable to complete components during this school year.

Deadline Extensions

- **If you are completing Components 2, 3, and/or 4**, we have extended the ePortfolio submission deadline to **June 12**. We will open the submission window on April 1 as planned.
- **If you are completing Component 1: Content Knowledge** and have an appointment scheduled, no additional action is required of you at this time and you may test as planned. If your appointment was cancelled due to a testing site closure and you have been unable to schedule a new appointment or were unable to schedule an appointment prior to the site closures, we are working to provide additional testing capacity. Please continue to monitor emails for updates.

Option for Deferral

We understand there are circumstances that may make it impossible for you to meet the extended deadline(s). Deferral options will be available for any candidate who needs one. More information about deferral options will be shared as soon as possible including how to take action if you need to request a deferral.

Registration for our next candidate cycle, which corresponds to the 2020-21 school year and was originally scheduled to open April 15, will be delayed. A revised date will be announced as soon as possible.

Clarification on Portfolio Submission Requirements and Forms

In light of the unique instructional situations that so many candidates are experiencing, we are reviewing the portfolio submission requirements for the student work, videos, and evidence candidates must provide.

We must ensure that any changes will uphold the quality standards that you and the teaching profession demand. We are convening our Technical Advisory Group (TAG) – an advisory board that provides guidance on best practices related to validity, reliability, accuracy, and fairness – to review potential changes and provide this assurance. As always, every aspect of the [governance of National Board Certification](#) is by teachers, for teachers.

Once the TAG has met, more details will be made available. In the meantime, you can read [clarifications on portfolio submission requirements and forms](#) online. We will post additional guidance as it becomes available.

National Board's Resources and Upcoming Webinar

The National Board has created a [dedicated page](#) addressing the COVID-19 situation, highlighting recent announcements as well as virtual events, resources, and supports for teachers. The transition to virtual learning -- including learning some of the many available tools -- is a challenge. We are committed to providing support for this transition, especially in the context of the Board certification. [See here](#) for a full list of previous and upcoming webinars.

Notably, on **Thursday, April 2 at 4:30pm ET**, we will host a webinar specifically for candidates that will be delivered by expert candidate support providers. [Free registration required](#) -- or watch on [Facebook Live](#). All replay materials will also be [published here](#). We encourage you to share this information with colleagues -- even if they are not engaged in the National Board process.

Finally, we want to reiterate our commitment to being fair and flexible. Given the rapidly evolving situation, we will provide details and answers to your questions as quickly as possible. Our next update will be on April 6.

Know that we stand with you and all teachers across the country.

Together,

Peggy Brookins, NBCT, President and CEO, and the full National Board Team