

NATIONAL BOARD

for Professional Teaching Standards[®]

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Sub: New Option for Your Upcoming October National Board Deadline

As the school year kicks off nationwide and the National Board's October submission and testing deadlines approach, we have heard from many candidates about the challenges they are facing in the fall of this COVID-19 impacted year--challenges that they could not have anticipated in the spring. In response, we are providing a new deferral option for the October 2020 deadlines.

Deferring to 2020-21

If you anticipate being unable to complete your component(s) by the October 2020 deadlines, you can defer to the 2020-2021 school year at no extra cost. This means you would be required to submit your portfolio component(s) or complete your assessment center testing by the Spring 2021 deadlines.

In order to make this change, you must complete [this form](#) by September 27 at 11:59 pm CT. If you do not complete this form by that date then your October deadline will remain in effect.

If you choose to defer, your five-year certification window will be extended by one year and the three-year component completion requirement will be extended to the fourth year of candidacy. Note that your original payment will automatically be applied to the deferred component(s) in the 2020-21 cycle and your registration fee for that cycle will be waived.

We will host a 30-minute webinar [on September 9 at 7 pm](#) ET to walk you through the process and implications for deferring to Spring 2021. [Register here](#).

Completing your Components

The National Board has issued changes to some requirements for portfolio submissions and candidacy. [This guidance](#) is for candidates pursuing National Board certification during the COVID-19 pandemic and has been put in place to provide flexibility for successfully completing and submitting components in 2020 and 2021.

If you are planning to complete Component 1: Content Knowledge and have not yet scheduled your appointment to test by the October 17 testing deadline, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

In addition to the content online, we will provide regular updates via email and webinars.

The National Board is a teacher-led organization, with all aspects of the work being “by teachers, for teachers.” We are guided by that belief and understand the unique challenges facing teachers during these times. Please keep an eye out for our follow-up communications, watch our social media channels for announcements and know that we stand with you as you continue to stand by and with our students.

Warmly,

Lisa Clarke, NBCT
Director of Candidate Experience