

ePortfolio FAQs

Formatting, Uploading, and Submitting Materials

Q: What are the acceptable file formats?

A: All written material must be submitted as PDF. All videos must be submitted as MP4. All files must be less than 500 MB in size. No other file types will be accepted. Visit our [ePortfolio Submission page](#) for access to resources that will help you convert your material to the appropriate file type.

Q: My scanner only saves JPG files, what should I do?

A: You will not be able to upload graphic files. You can insert graphic files such as JPGs into a word processing document, and then convert the document to a PDF prior to submission. Visit our [ePortfolio Submission page](#) for tips on scanning and submitting your evidence as PDF files.

Q: How should I name my files?

A: When naming your files, consider using a naming convention that will help you easily identify and organize the various parts of your entry. File names should consist of alphanumeric characters only; please do not use special characters such as !, @, #. Do not use your name in your file name.

Q: I need help with preparing my video file for submission, what should I do?

A: There are a number of [resources](#) available on our website to help you export, convert and compress your videos to MP4.

Q: Where do I go to upload materials?

A: You will upload and submit your material directly to your [National Board account](#). After logging in to your account, click the "Complete your ePortfolio Submission" button to begin. Review the [Guide to Electronic Submission](#) for step-by-step instructions.

Q: I submitted material and need confirmation for my records. What should I do?

A: You can find confirmation of your submission in your National Board account on your candidate dashboard; use your browser's print feature to print a copy for your records.

First-time, Returning, and Retake Candidates

Q: Where can I find my Candidate ID? What if I forget to include it in my submission?

A: You can find your National Board Candidate ID in your [National Board account](#). Forgetting to include your ID, or including the wrong ID, will not impact the scoring of your submission.

Q: How should I number the pages of my entry?

A: There isn't a wrong way to number your pages; feel free to:

- Number your entire entry's pages sequentially from beginning to end.
- Number each individual part of your entry separately.
- Skip page numbering altogether. Page numbering doesn't impact scoring.

Q: What identifying information should be included in my submission, e.g. names, locations, etc.?

A: The anonymity guidelines are:

- When referencing students, parents, and colleagues, use first names only.
- When referencing your school, school district, or facility, use initials only, do not identify its location.
- Do not identify your city or state by name.
- Do not identify any college or university by name. If the sample includes a company, organization, or university that does not reveal your exact location you do not need to remove the organization name or location. Signatures from those organizations may be left since they are not colleagues. Names of authors or professional presenters do not need to be removed.
- Remove your name from student work and do not include your name in Written Commentaries.

Q: What cover sheets and forms do I submit, and do I need cover sheets for my instructional materials?

A: Submit the following types of cover sheets and forms:

- Those that require you to enter information about the evidence you are submitting.
- Those that include prompts you must respond to on a separate page.
- Those that identify the evidence attached.

Refer to the Submission at a Glance Chart located in your portfolio instructions for a complete list of evidence, forms and cover sheets to submit electronically.

Q: Is it ok to handwrite on the forms?

A: Yes, we accept handwritten responses on forms. You can also type your responses using single spacing and the default font.

Q: Why is the space for responding on the Contextual Information sheet so limited?

A: You shouldn't need a lot of space. The purpose of this form is for you to **briefly** describe your overall teaching context with a focus on your school/district at large.

Q. My forms are available as Word documents; can I delete the form directions and/or instructions to provide myself more typing space?

A: No, you are not permitted to alter any National Board forms. Your responses should be concise and must fit in the space allotted. The completed form will be submitted as a PDF file.

Q: Can I use the same Contextual Information Sheet for all of my entries?

A: Yes, you may use the same Contextual Information Sheet for all of your entries, if you are using the same class/school.

Q: May I place a collage of photos on the Photo Storyboard Form?

A. No. You must not include more than one photograph on each Photo Storyboard Form. A form that contains a collage of photographs is not acceptable. Assessors will view each photograph used to create a collaged image as a single photograph that will count toward the 10 photograph limit. Also, **don't** place Assessment Materials on the Photo Storyboard Form.

Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Candidates

Q: Where can I find my Candidate ID? What if I forget to include it in my submission?

A: You can find your National Board Candidate ID in your [National Board account](#). Forgetting to include your ID, or including the wrong ID, will not impact the scoring of your submission.

Q: What identifying information should be removed from my submission, e.g. names, locations, etc.?

A: Your goal in referring to people or places is to convey to an evaluator sufficient evidence about your teaching practice. Use the following guidelines to refer to people, institutions, and places in your written materials, learner work samples, instructional materials, sample products, and videos:

- Remove all references of your last name.
- Remove last names of students, parents, and colleagues.
- Remove the name of your school, district, city, or state.
- If the sample includes a company, organization, or university that does not reveal your exact location you do not need to remove the organization name or location. Signatures from those organizations may be left since they are not colleagues. Names of authors or professional presenters do not need to be removed.
- Last names and identifiers should not be removed from the Video Recording Date Attestation form.

Q. My templates are available as Word documents; can I delete the template directions and/or instructions to provide myself more typing space?

A: No, you are not permitted to alter any National Board templates. Your responses should be concise and must fit in the space allotted. The completed template will be submitted as a PDF file.

Q: My video has multiple segments; can I upload them separately?

A: Your video segments will need to be uploaded as a single file. For instructions on converting the multiple files to a single file, review the Video Conversion and Compression Guide found on our [ePortfolio Submission page](#).

Q: I don't have a Video Recording Date Attestation form; how do I submit?

A: If you are not submitting a Video Recording Date Attestation or Classroom Layout form, simply leave the corresponding file part(s) empty.

Q: Is it ok to handwrite on the forms?

A: Yes, we accept handwritten responses on forms. You can also type your responses using single spacing and the default font.

Renewal Candidates

Q: Where can I find my Candidate ID? What if I forget to include it in my submission?

A: You can find your National Board Candidate ID in your [National Board account](#). Forgetting to include your ID, or including the wrong ID, will not impact the scoring of your submission.

Q: What identifying information should be removed from my submission, e.g. names, locations, etc.?

A: Your goal in referring to people or places is to convey to an evaluator sufficient evidence about your teaching practice. Use the following guidelines to refer to people, institutions, and places in your written materials, learner work samples, instructional materials, sample products, and videos:

- Remove all references of your last name.
- Remove last names of students, parents, and colleagues.
- Remove the name of your school, district, city, or state.
- If the sample includes a company, organization, or university that does not reveal your exact location you do not need to remove the organization name or location. Signatures from those organizations may be left since they are not colleagues. Names of authors or professional presenters do not need to be removed.
- Last names and identifiers should not be removed from the Video Recording Date Attestation Form.

Q: How should I organize and number pages?

A: All pages must be sequentially numbered within each component. Number pages for Component 1 as 1-20+ (half pages of text may be used), with your samples following each related Professional Growth Experience (see “Organizing Your PPG Components” on page 37 of the [PPG Instructions](#)). For example, if the commentary for PGE 1 is numbered 1-3, the related samples that are placed next would be numbered 4-5. The commentary for PGE 2 would be numbered 6-8, and the samples 9-10, etc. Pages in Component 2 will be numbered 1 to 4. Pages in Component 3 will be numbered 1 to 4. If learner work is submitted, it will be numbered 1 to 8. The reflection will be numbered 1 to 3. Do not number cover sheets and forms.

Q: My video has multiple segments; can I upload them separately?

A: Your video segments must be uploaded as a single file. For instructions on converting the multiple files to a single file, review the Video Conversion and Compression Guide found on our [ePortfolio Submission page](#).

Q: I don't have a Video Recording Date Attestation or Classroom Layout form; how do I submit?

A: If you are not submitting a Video Recording Date Attestation or Classroom Layout form, simply leave the corresponding file part(s) empty.

Q: Is it ok to handwrite on the forms?

A: Yes, we accept handwritten responses on forms. You can also type your responses using single spacing and the default font.

Q: How do I submit Component 3?

A: Component 3 offers you several options. You may choose to create a 6-minute video recording of your teaching practice with pre-K–12 learners or with professional colleagues, or you may choose to feature learner work samples from one or more learners. You will be provided with file types for both scenarios; simply upload your files to the corresponding section(s) and leave the extra parts empty.