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# **National Board Certification**

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# ***Choosing Excellence: National Board Certification***

***You're at the head of your class.***

***Now go to the top of your  
profession.***



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**“Too many Americans, school board members, administrators and many teachers included, believe that any modestly educated person with some instinct for nurturing has the requisite qualifications to teach [and counsel]”.**

(“Why America Needs National Board Certified Teachers”, NBPTS, 2004)



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**What are the characteristics of  
an effective educator?**



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# History of NBPTS

- 1985 major call for the establishment of a national teacher standards following “A Nation at Risk” report.
- The planning group, supported by Carnegie Corporation, stipulated the majority of its *board members would be teachers currently active in the classroom*
- Developed by teachers for teachers



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# Mission

- Maintaining high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do
- Providing a national voluntary system certifying teachers and counselors who meet these standards
- Advocating related education reforms to integrate National Board Certification in American education and to capitalize on the expertise of National Board Certified Teachers



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## **It's by teachers, for teachers**

**Practicing classroom teachers:**

- **Develop the standards**
- **Develop the assessments**
- **Score the assessments**
- **Provide candidate support**
- **Advocate for related education reforms**



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***“The National Board  
Certification process is the  
best professional  
development experience I’ve  
ever had.”***



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## **National Board Certification fosters quality teaching and student learning**

***“The evidence is clear that National Board Certification distinguishes more effective teachers...with respect to student achievement.”***

**Congressionally-mandated report  
National Research Council of the National Academies  
June 2008**



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## What do the #'s look like?

- **91,000 teachers nationwide**
- **205 in Utah**

### **NBCTs by Year**

2010-2011 – awaiting scores

2009-2010 -- 8651

2008-2009 – 8889

2007-2008 – 9606

2005-2006 -- 7817

1993-1994 -- 177



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# Five Core Propositions

**Accomplished  
teachers ...**

Are committed to  
students and  
their learning.

Are members of  
learning  
communities.

Know the  
subjects they  
teach and how  
to teach them to  
students.

Think  
systematically  
about their  
practice and learn  
from experience.

Are responsible  
for managing and  
monitoring  
student learning.



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## **National Board Certification covers the entire spectrum of learning**

**25 Certificates that:**

- **Cover 16 content areas and 7 developmental levels**
- **Apply to more than 95 percent of teachers**
- **Are based on the Five Core Propositions**



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## **National Board Certification® is...**

- **Recognition for accomplished teaching—content knowledge and teaching pedagogy**
- **Advanced certification**
- **Voluntary**
- **Assessment based on national standards of accomplished teaching developed by teachers and other educators**



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## **What do I need to know?**

- National Board Certification is a two-part assessment
- Can be completed in one year, with up to 3 years to certify
- Is based on standards in each certificate area



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## **Eligibility**

- At least three years experience as a pre-K-12 classroom teacher or school counselor in a public or private school
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution
- A valid teaching license or a license to practice as a school counselor



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# **School Counseling Standards**

- I. School Counseling Program**
- II. School Counseling and Student Competencies**
- III. Human Growth and Development**
- IV. Counseling Theories and Techniques**
- V. Equity, Fairness, and Diversity**
- VI. School Climate**
- VII. Collaboration with Family and Community**
- VIII. Informational Resources and Technology**
- IX. Student Assessment**
- X. Leadership, Advocacy, and Professional Identity**
- XI. Reflective Practice**



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# What is the Process to becoming a National Board Certified Counselor?

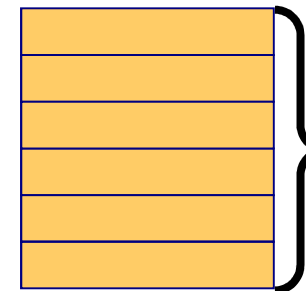
## Four Portfolio Entries

- 1) Addressing Personal/Social Needs
- 2) Exploring Career Development
- 3) Maximizing Academic Learning
- 4) Documented Accomplishments:  
Contributions to Student Learning

- 2 entries require video and 1 requires student work samples
- Document continuous learning, leadership, and collaboration



**Four  
Portfolio  
Entries**



**Six  
Assessment  
Center  
Exercises**

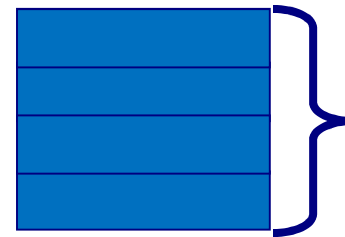


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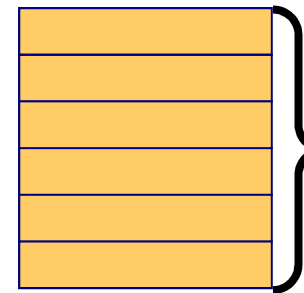
## What is the Process to becoming a National Board Certified Counselor?

### Six Assessment Center Exercises

- Human Growth and Development
- School Counseling Program
- Diverse Populations
- Theory
- Data and Planning
- Collaboration
  - Are delivered at a computer-based testing center, open-response prompts, timed



**Four  
Portfolio  
Entries**



**Six  
Assessment  
Center  
Exercises**



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## What else to I need to know?

- Certification is good for 10 years, but you only need to renew once
- \$2,500 assessment fee + \$65 application fee (scholarships available, fees due by December 31)
- Take One! Option
- Candidate Support is available
- District/Other resources & support



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## **So Why Certify?**

**“Countless numbers of accomplished teachers regularly exercise sound professional judgment and practice in a principled and effective manner. But it is rare that such teachers are recognized for their accomplishment or asked to share their expertise with others. An occasional plaque or modest check is not substitute for formal recognition of demonstrated competence that relies on a rigorous process as the advanced professional certification system the National Board is designing.”**

(“Why America Needs National Board Certified Teachers”, NBPTS, 2004)



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## **So Why Do It?**

**“The absence of a credible and accepted method to recognize outstanding teaching sends a message that good teaching is not valued, and that the profession does not take itself or its responsibilities seriously.”**

(“Why America Needs National Board Certified Teachers”, NBPTS, 2004)



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## **National Board Certification can...**

- Validate your teaching practice
- Provide opportunities to advance your career
- Increase financial opportunities in many areas
- Provide a portable teaching license in most states
- Contribute to Continuing Education Units (CEU)/ re-certification requirements in some areas



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## **What National Board Certified Teachers do for your students**

- **Foster a deeper understanding of content**
- **Measurably improve your students learning and achievement**
- **Provide individualized instruction based on your students needs and strengths**
- **Help your students demonstrate knowledge through a variety of assessment methods**



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## **What National Board Certified Teachers do for your school**

- **Build learning communities**
- **Support mentoring for new or struggling teachers**
- **Create closer ties among your school and your students, families and communities**
- **Provide public distinction for your school**



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**For more information...**

**Toll-free phone number:  
1-888-780-7805.**

**NBPTS Web site:**

**[www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)**