

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

National Board Certification

National Board certification is a certificate of achievement issued to teachers who have met the [high and rigorous standards](#) for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do as established by the [National Board for Professional Teaching Standards \(NBPTS\)](#). Founded in Michigan in 1987 and now located in Washington, D.C., the NBPTS provides voluntary certification for teachers that is a nationally recognized, distinguishing hallmark of the profession.

Please note: This certificate is not a nationally accepted certificate to be used in lieu of a state-issued certificate or license to teach.

Advantages to Achieving National Board Certification

Michigan recognizes the rigor and commitment to advancing student learning and achievement that is involved in achieving the National Board Certificate. To that end, National Board certification may result in one of the following advantages for holders of a Michigan teaching certificate:

- NBPTS indicator added to a Michigan Teaching certificate
- Extend the years of validity of the Michigan Professional certificate to match the expiration date of the National Board Certificate (NOTE: The validity cannot be matched on the Advanced Professional Teaching Certificate)
- Meet the teacher leader requirement needed to obtain the optional [Advanced Professional Teaching certificate](#)

Updating a Michigan Teaching Certificate

To add the National Board indicator to a Michigan teaching certificate or accomplish any of the advantages or goals listed above, qualified educators may send an electronic copy of their NBPTS-issued certificate to the Office of Educator Excellence via MDE-EducatorHelp@Michigan.gov. They should include the name that appears on their Michigan teaching certificate and either the last four digits of their Social Security Number or their [Michigan PIC](#) code.

Funding for the National Board Process

No state or federal funds are available to support this process at this time.