

NATIONAL BOARD

for Professional Teaching Standards®

From: Ron Thorpe and Andy Coons, The National Board

To: First time candidate or Renewal – Already submitted

Subject: Future Revisions to the National Board Certification Process

September 12, 2013

Dear Candidate:

You are receiving this email because you are currently awaiting scores for National Board Certification. In 2014, we will be rolling out revisions to the certification process, and I want to inform you about the impact of these changes on your pursuit of National Board Certification.

What does this mean for you?

These changes do not affect your submission, and no further action is required on your part. The new certification process will only apply to first-time candidates beginning in the 2014-2015 cycle.

Why are we revising the certification process?

Just as you are proving your commitment to be a reflective practitioner, the National Board continually strives to be a reflective organization. Certification was last revised in 2001, and this revision is being made to incorporate new research and to reduce some of the barriers you may have experienced as you went through the process.

Our ultimate goal is to make it possible for more students to learn from Board-certified teachers.

This is also an opportunity for the profession to define for itself which measures of student learning and teacher effectiveness should be used to determine when a teacher's practice is accomplished. Teachers know best that every classroom has a different instructional context, that every student is unique, and that teaching is a complex practice.

What isn't changing?

Though the process is changing, our principles remain the same. This means the Five Core Propositions, the National Board Standards, and the Architecture of Accomplished Teaching will not change. National Board Standards will continue to be written by teachers, for teachers. Certification will remain performance-based and peer-reviewed, with the same emphasis on reflection and student learning.

I encourage you to watch this [short video](#) for more information. Please stay tuned to our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page to learn more and help us spread this exciting news.

Best regards,
Ron Thorpe, President & Chief Executive Officer
Andy Coons, NBCT, Chief Operating Officer