

NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION 2011-2012

**Financial Incentive Offered by the
Iowa Department of Education
for Current National Board Certified Teachers and
2007-08 Applicants**

NOTE: In order to be eligible for any National Board Certification financial incentives offered by the Iowa Department of Education, the deadline to apply was December 31, 2007.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Regarding National Board Certification Financial Incentives 2011-2012

- Part 1: Legislative Provisions
- Part 2: Introductory Questions
- Part 3: Questions about the Annual Award
- Part 4: Important Dates to Remember

Part I – Legislative Provisions

1) Were there any recent legislative changes that affect National Board Certification (NBC)?

Yes. The 2007 Iowa Legislature phased out the financial incentives provided to Iowa teachers who become certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Pursuant to amendments to Iowa Code section 256.44 (2007 Iowa Acts, Chapter 108), the financial incentives for NBC teachers are available only to teachers who registered for NBC on or before December 31, 2007. Funds are available to honor the registration reimbursement in Iowa Administrative Code 84.3 and the annual awards in Iowa Administrative Code 84.4 for eligible individuals.

Part 2 – Introductory Questions

2) What financial incentives are available for NBC teachers?

NOTE: In order to be eligible for any NBC financial incentives, the deadline to apply was December 31, 2007.
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Annual Award

NBC after May 1, 2000: A maximum of \$2,500 award per year for ten years.

3) For this fiscal year, what are the deadlines a teacher must meet in order to qualify for the financial incentives?

May 1, 2012: Last day for NBC teachers to submit application for the annual award to the DE.

June 1, 2012: Eligible NBC teachers receive annual award.

4) Who qualifies for the annual award?

Individuals eligible for the NBC annual award shall meet all of the following qualifications:

- a) The individual is an NBC teacher.
- b) The individual is a teacher.
- c) The individual is employed by a school district in Iowa.
- d) The individual receives a salary as a classroom teacher.
- e) The individual completes the department's annual application process, which includes submitting verification of certification.
- f) The individual has not received an NBC annual award for more than ten years.
- g) The individual has not received state NBC annual awards totaling more than \$50,000.
- h) The individual is applying for the award within one year of being eligible for the award.

An individual who possesses less than a full-time teaching contract shall receive an annual award prorated to reflect the type of contract; i.e., half-time, quarter-time, etc.

5) Who is included in the definition of a teacher licensed under Iowa Code section 272.1?

"Teacher" means a licensed member of a school's instructional staff who diagnoses, prescribes, evaluates and directs student learning in a manner which is consistent with professional practice and school objectives, shares responsibilities for development of an instructional program and any coordinating activities, evaluates or assesses student progress before and after instruction, and who uses the student evaluation or assessment information to promote additional student learning.
-Iowa Code section 272.1(14)

6) What does "employed by a school district in Iowa" mean?

This means that the eligible individual is a **full or part-time teacher** employed in a nonadministrative position in a public school district pursuant to a contract issued by a board of directors of a school district under Iowa Code section 279.13.

An individual who possesses less than a full-time teaching contract shall receive an annual award prorated to reflect the type of contract; i.e., half-time, quarter-time, etc.

Substitute teachers, independent contractors, and vendors are not considered employees of the school district. However, full-time permanent substitute teachers employed under individual contracts not included under Iowa Code section 279.13 are considered to be employed by a school district in Iowa if the teachers receive retirement and health benefits as part of their contract.

Teachers who are employees of accredited or nonaccredited nonpublic schools and schools under the control of the State Board of Regents are not considered employees of a school district in Iowa.

7) What does "receiving a salary as a classroom teacher" mean?

A person who receives a salary as a classroom teacher means a teacher employed by a school district in Iowa who receives any salary compensation from the school district for providing classroom instruction to students in the school district. The term also means a teacher employed by an area education agency in Iowa who receives all salary compensation through pooled school district funds provided to the area education agency to provide classroom instruction to elementary (including pre-kindergarten) or secondary students in one or more school districts.

Curriculum directors, administrators, and other teaching professionals that do not receive at least a portion of their salary for providing classroom instruction to students are ineligible for any annual award.

8) If I apply for NBC, will my name be kept confidential?

The NBPTS ensures confidentiality of candidates throughout the entire certification process.

HOWEVER, under Iowa law, a candidate's name will become public information at the time that the teacher elects to submit his or her application for the annual award. Those receiving an annual award will also be public information available upon request.

Part 3 – Questions About the Annual Award

9) Who qualifies for the annual award?

See question 4 above.

10) What annual awards are available?

NBC after May 1, 2000: A maximum of \$2,500 award per year for ten years.

11) When will an NBC teacher receive the annual award?

Iowa law states that NBC teachers must annually submit to the DE an application verifying that they are NBC, an Iowa licensed teacher, employed by an Iowa school district and receiving salary as a classroom teacher.

Annual award applications are due by May 1 and payment will be made to eligible NBC teachers by June 1 of each fiscal year.

Annual award applications are due to the DE by May 1, 2012, in order to receive payment by June 1, 2012. Current certified NBC teachers would also submit their applications under this timeline.

Applications for NBC teachers to receive their annual award in June 2012 will be sent via e-mail in January, 2012, or can be obtained by contacting:

Tana Mullen
Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
E-mail: Tana.Mullen@iowa.gov
Telephone: 1-515-281-3333

OR

The Iowa Department of Education's Website at:
http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=282&Itemid=1288

12) Is sufficient funding available for the 2011-2012 school year to pay eligible NBC teachers their annual award?

NOTE: In order to be eligible for any NBC financial incentives, the deadline to apply was December 31, 2007.

Yes. Funds are available for annual awards and registration fee reimbursement. Under Iowa Code section 256.44(2) the DE is required to prorate the amount of the reimbursement award and the annual award if the number of applicants exceeds the funding available for each award. As such, applicants will receive their full annual award or, if necessary, a lesser prorated amount. Annual appropriations by the legislature are required to fund any NBC program.

13) Will any annual award count towards IPERS?

No. Any NBC annual award is considered an award, NOT salary. Before June 1 of each fiscal year each eligible NBC teacher will be issued the appropriate annual award check from the state of Iowa. The individual teacher will be responsible to pay the appropriate state and federal taxes. The DE will notify state and federal taxing authorities of the award. Each teacher will be issued an IRS Form 1099.

Part 4 – Important Dates to Remember

14) What are important dates to remember for 2011-2012?

NOTE: In order to be eligible for any NBC financial incentives, the deadline to apply was December 31, 2007.

- May 1, 2012 Last day for NBC teachers to submit application for the annual award to the DE.
- June 1, 2012 Candidates will receive annual award payment.