



Master Teacher Program

In support of Nebraska educators who aspire to National Board certification, the 2015 Nebraska Legislature authorized funding for the Master Teacher Program which includes registration fee reimbursement awards, annual salary bonuses, and certificate advancement to a Professional Certificate.

The founding mission of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) is to advance the quality of teaching and learning by:

- ◇ Maintaining high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do;
- ◇ Providing a national voluntary system certifying teachers 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.



The essence of the National Board's vision are the Five Core Propositions:

1. Teachers are committed to students and their learning.
2. Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.
3. Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
4. Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
5. Teachers are members of learning communities.

National Board Certification Resources

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) – www.nbpts.org

NBPTS Getting Started – www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/

Guide to National Board Certification – http://boardcertifiedteachers.org/sites/default/files/Guide_to_NB_Certification.pdf

Rule 22 – Regulations Governing the Master Teacher Program authorizes the Nebraska Department of Education to implement the Master Teacher Program. The Nebraska Legislature has authorized funding to support Registration Awards and annual Salary Bonuses for two years (2015-16 and 2016-17). Funding beyond these two years will be determined in the future.

Registration Awards - Registration Fee Reimbursement:

- ◆ The “Total Registration Fee” includes the first NBPTS annual fee and the four component fees. Total reimbursement for any teacher may be paid in two installments.
- ◆ Registration Awards* will be made to teachers each year (July 1-June 30) on a first-come, first-serve basis. There will be up to 40 Registration Awards made available each year.
- ◆ Enrollment and appropriate documentation must be filed with NDE within one year of initial application to NBPTS.
- ◆ NOT eligible for reimbursement:
 - ◆ Applications to NBPTS prior to July 1, 2015
 - ◆ Subsequent annual fees while you are completing the NPBTS process
 - ◆ Fees for retaking components
 - ◆ National Certification renewal fees

Advancement to a Professional Certificate

- ◆ Upon completion of the National Board certification, teachers will also be awarded the Nebraska Professional Teaching Certificate.

Annual Salary Bonuses:

- ◆ The Salary Bonus* will be up to \$5,000 annually. The actual amount is dependent on the number of qualified applicants and funds available. If the number of teachers qualifying for the bonus exceeds the available funds, bonuses will be reduced such that each teacher receives the same bonus amount.
- ◆ The Salary Bonus will be paid directly to the individual by NDE.
- ◆ Taxes on the Salary Bonus are the responsibility of the recipient.
- ◆ Application deadline is January 15 each year. Funds are distributed after March 1 each year.

Nebraska Master Teacher Program Resources

Web Link - www.education.ne.gov/EducatorPrep/TopPages/MasterTeach.html

Rule 22 Regulations Governing the Master Teacher Program - www.education.ne.gov/LEGAL/webrulespdf/clean22.pdf

***Registration Award and Salary Bonus payments are subject to availability of funds.**

