

Tacoma National Board Project (TNBP)

The Tacoma National Board Project is a collaborative project between Tacoma Public Schools, Tacoma Education Association with sponsorship from Rainier Pacific Bank. The purpose of the Project is to assist teachers in earning advanced certification for high-quality, effective teaching. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certificate attests that a teacher is accomplished, makes sound professional judgments about student learning and acts effectively on those judgments.

To demonstrate that teachers can meet the high standards for teaching skills and knowledge, candidates complete a two-part assessment that includes the following:

- 1) a portfolio of videotaped classroom teaching, lesson plans, student work samples and reflections on teaching that show their impact on student learning; and
- 2) A series of written prompts that measure knowledge of their subject area. Teachers report spending 150-200 hours on the certification process over the course of a school year.

Candidates will meet regularly with a collegial support group and receive mentoring from National Board Certified teachers and other trained facilitators. Candidates will need to apply for the conditional loan offered by The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Once the conditional loan is granted TNBP will offer the candidates support groups and two release dates. Clock hours/credits will be available for an additional charge.

Conditional Loan Information and Timelines

Pre-candidacy/Candidacy

OSPI National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Scholarship

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction offers a conditional loan that funds \$2000 of the \$2500 fee for beginning the process of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification.

Conditional Loan

This competitive conditional loan is based in part on a series of essay questions the applicant must write and several federal and state required demographic considerations. The scoring of the application is done by committees of NBCTs from around the state. While the scores on the essays are important, they are not the sole consideration for the conditional loan. Attention to detail throughout the National Board process is very important and this same intentionality should be taken when completing the OSPI NBPTS conditional loan application.

In the 2010-11 NBPTS candidate cycle there will be two official conditional loan rounds.

- 1. January 15th -February 12th , 2010**
Applicants were notified on March 12th , 2010
- 2. April 2nd – April 30th , 2010**
Applicants will be notified no later than May 28th , 2010

Eligibility

Educators in Washington are eligible to apply for a conditional loan if they meet the following criteria (please note that these are the same eligibility requirements as NBPTS. Questions regarding eligibility should be directed to NBPTS at 1-800-22TEACH):

1. Candidate must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
2. Candidate must hold a valid Washington state teaching/counseling certificate.
3. Candidate must have completed a minimum of three years of successful full-time teaching (or the equivalent part-time as defined by candidate's employer) in a U.S. P-12 school prior to the first day of work of the 2010-11 school year.

Eligibility for Conditional Certification

Conditional Loan Commitments

Accomplished teachers pursuing NBPTS certification are committed to their students and their school communities. As a requirement of accepting the OSPI NBPTS conditional loan, applicants must agree to the following commitments:

1. Candidate must be employed in a Washington state K–12 public or state-approved private school during the 2010-11 year.
2. Candidate must regularly teach at least one class during the 2010-11 school year that meets the age range and content specifications for the desired certificate area. At least six students must be in the class, with at least 51 percent of the students at the appropriate age level.
3. Candidate must read the complete text of the NBPTS standards for the intended certificate (available online at www.nbpts.org).
4. Candidate must agree to attend and fully participate in all support meetings and complete the portfolio and assessment center exercises according to published timelines or repay OSPI any fee paid on the candidate's behalf.
5. Candidate must be prepared to pay \$500 to the NBPTS; fee to support provider according to the provider's timeline; and the remainder of the NBPTS fee by December 31, 2010.
6. Candidate must submit a letter from his or her principal or district administrator supporting the candidate in this endeavor and, wherever possible, specifying resources the school or district will devote to the candidate's success (time, money, equipment, expertise, building access on weekends, release time, copier, video camera, help with videotaping, postage, videotapes, etc.).

Failure to follow the eligibility requirements, commitments or OSPI NBPTS conditional loan timeline may result in scholarship revocation.

Application

To complete the 2010-11 online conditional loan application, <https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/NBScholarship/>

TNBP Deadline

You will need to inform TNBP Coordinator Jean Sheckler or Kelly Raymond by June 3, 2010 if you want to join a support group and receive the two release days. There will be a meeting for all candidates who received the conditional loans on June 8, 2010 4:00-6:00 P.M. @ Gray Middle School Library