

Questions to Consider As I Contemplate Pursuing NBCT Candidacy

Professional Dispositions & Experiences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Am I confident I am truly making a difference in the achievement of my students? 2. Have I done the work needed to be deeply aligned with teaching standards, current research, and quality, student-focused practices? 3. Have I become a leader in my grade level, building, district, community, etc.?
Personal Dispositions & Experiences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Am I willing to dismiss myself from some of my previous commitments to complete the process (e.g., family, committee and volunteer work)? 5. Am I willing to prioritize my life? Does dirty dishes and laundry really bug me? 6. Do I like a challenge?
NBCT-Specific Demands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Am I ready to analyze and assess my teaching for the purpose of professional growth? 8. Have I studied the NPBTS standards booklet (not just the brief list of standards), and identified specifics from the standards that I address on a regular basis? 9. Do I understand that NBCT certification can take up to three years to achieve, and am I willing to commit to three years in order to achieve certification? 10. Do I understand that this process is significantly different from any other project I have ever completed? 11. Am I willing to say no to extracurricular activities for a year in order to focus exclusively on National Board work? 12. Am I ready to spend a minimum of 200-400 hours preparing my portfolio and for the Assessment Center Exercises? 13. Am I really willing to give up my weekends to write and rewrite my papers? Do I like to write, write, and write again?

<p>Professional Supports & Challenges</p>	<p>14. Is my principal supportive of me, and willing to assist me with resources and time, as I complete the process (e.g., copies, time to work, videotaping equipment, assistance in videotaping, release time to work on my portfolio, etc.)?</p> <p>15. Have I been assigned new responsibilities at work (adviser or committee roles), been given a new course to teach, or experienced a change of schedule (for example, from a 4 to a 7 period day)?</p> <p>16. Do I have several supportive friends and colleagues who are willing to read my work, and give me honest feedback?</p>
<p>Personal Supports & Challenges</p>	<p>17. Have I discussed this commitment with my significant others, and do they clearly understand the sacrifices that the family may need to make as I complete the process?</p> <p>18. Is my spouse/family supportive of the time you will need to spend on weekends and vacations writing and rewriting your portfolio entries?</p> <p>19. Do I have small children, elderly parents, or sick family members who require significant caretaking?</p>