

Arkansas Department of Education  
Rules Governing Eligibility and Financial Incentives  
For National Board for Professional Teaching Standards  
Candidacy and Certification  
September 2010

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### 1.00 Regulatory Authority

- 1.1 These rules shall be known as the Arkansas Department of Education (Department) Rules Governing Eligibility and Financial Incentives for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Program Candidacy and Certification (NBPTS-Program).
- 1.2 These rules are enacted under the State Board of Education's (State Board) authority pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§6-11-105, 6-17-412, and 6-17-413.

### 2.00 Purpose

- 2.1 To improve student learning ~~by strengthening and strengthen teaching and to encourage by encouraging~~ teachers to participate in and complete NBPTS certification;
- 2.2 ~~by authorizing~~ To authorize the Department to pay full tuition and fund the full amount of the participation fee of the NBPTS certification;
- 2.3 To authorize the Department to fund incentive bonuses for NBCTs in Arkansas;
- 2.4 To outline the eligibility criteria and funding structure for the incentive bonuses to participants and by establishing eligibility requirements; and
- 2.5 To outline the establishment of a support program for NBPTS participants, and,
- 2.6 ~~To establish the mechanism for the selection of teacher participants, as determined by the amount of funding available for the program.~~

### 3.00 Definitions

For the purposes of these rules, the following terms shall mean:

- 3.1 "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Education;
- 3.1 ~~"Completion of the certification process"~~ will be defined as officially being recognized as a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) by the NBPTS.

- 3.2 **“National Board for Professional Teaching Standards”** ~~will be defined as an~~ means the independent board which reliably identifies and that certifies teachers who meet advanced standards and certifications by effectively enhancing student learning and demonstrating the high level of knowledge and skills, dispositions, and commitments reflected in the following five core propositions:
- 3.2.1 Teachers are committed to students and their learning.
  - 3.2.2 Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.
  - 3.2.3 Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
  - 3.2.4 Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.
  - 3.2.5 Teachers are members of learning communities.
- 3.3 ~~“A support program for candidates” is a comprehensive process of technical and financial assistance provided to program applicants to ensure successful program completion, as Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-413 allows.~~
- 3.3 **“The NBPTS Advisory Committee”** ~~(or “Advisory Committee”)~~ is a means the ten (10) member team of three (3) National Board Certified Teachers, three (3) National Board facilitators, and four (4) educational administration or business representatives, to include one Department staff member, which will advise. The Advisory Committee advises the Department on policy issues, assist in the support system, and select candidates based on relevant criteria when all candidates cannot be funded; such criteria to be established by the Advisory Committee in accordance with law and with final review and approval by the State Board.
- 3.4 **“Classroom teacher”** means a teacher who is required to hold a standard teaching license from the Department and who is engaged directly in instruction with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual’s contracted time, with that 70% allowed to include:
- ~~3.5.1 regularly scheduled instructional preparation time during the regular school day;~~
  - ~~3.5.2 a maximum of one period per day service as an instructional department chair;~~
  - ~~3.5.3 service as a master teacher in a charter school;~~
  - ~~3.5.4 service as a mentor to a novice teacher;~~
  - 3.4.1 Employment by an educational service cooperative when the teacher provides direct student services for a collaborative of school districts in public school buildings and other instructional settings throughout the

cooperative area; and

3.4.2 Instructional positions such as library/media specialist, school guidance counselor, literacy specialist, math specialist or others for whom NBPTS certificates specifically exist.

~~3.4.3 District curriculum administrators and program administrators are eligible for the payment of National Board fees and bonuses provided that they: (1) hold a standard teaching license from the Department; (2) are engaged directly in instruction in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of their contracted time as set forth above; and (3) provide to the Department written certification that they fulfill the foregoing requirements in accordance with Section 8.01 of these Rules.~~

3.5 **“Classroom setting”** for purposes of candidacy means:

3.5.1 For the purpose of eligibility for NBPTS candidacy funding means full-time assignment to a setting in a specific Arkansas public school building or buildings in which a teacher works directly with a student or students; and

3.5.2 ~~for purposes of a starting or a yearly~~ For the purpose of eligibility for an incentive bonus means full-time assignment to a setting in a school building(s) or other instructional settings cited in §3.05.05 where a NBCT is directly involved in the instructional process by teaching children, by facilitating the instructional process through work with building teachers in classrooms, or by serving in the role of building administrator, or assistant building administrator.

3.6 **“High-poverty charter school”** means an Arkansas open-enrollment public charter school in which seventy percent (70%) or greater of the previous school year’s enrolled students are national school lunch students as defined in § 6-20-2303.

3.7 **“High-poverty district”** means an Arkansas public school district in which seventy percent (70%) or greater of the previous school year’s enrolled students are national school lunch students as defined in § 6-20-2303.

3.8 **“High-poverty school”** means an Arkansas public school in which seventy percent (70%) or greater of the previous school year’s enrolled students are national school lunch students as defined in § 6-20-2303.

3.9 ***“In the process of initial certification”*** means that the individual has completed registration for first-time candidacy (including payment of the registration fee).

3.10 **“Instructional facilitator”** means an individual holding a valid Arkansas teacher’s

license who facilitates continuous improvement in classroom instruction by providing instructional and professional learning support to teachers for research-based instruction and by demonstrating the alignment of instruction with curriculum standards and assessment tools.

- 3.11 “Instructional leader” means a building-level administrator who is responsible for evaluating teachers or instructional staff. It shall include without limitation a building-level administrator who is an evaluator as defined in A.C.A § 6-17-2803.
- 3.12 “NBCT” means National Board Certified Teacher.
- 3.13 “NBPTS Candidacy” means an applicant’s participation in the NBPTS program for becoming a certified teacher under these rules;
- 3.14 “Public School” means a school serving students in any of grades K-12 that is assigned a local education agency (LEA) number by the ADE.
- 3.15 “State Board” means the Arkansas State Board of Education.
- ~~3.16 “Higher education eligibility” refers to teachers who have worked a minimum of three (3) years with National Board certification as a classroom teacher, building-level principal or building-level assistant principal in an Arkansas public school district before full-time employment as a teacher in an accredited teacher preparation program at a state-sponsored institution of higher education.~~
- ~~3.17 “Starting bonus” means a one-time bonus given during the school year in which an individual first obtains National Board certification. The amount is \$5,000. This provision shall apply only to the extent that necessary funds are appropriated to the Department.~~
- ~~3.18 “Yearly bonus” means a bonus that a NBCT receives in each of years two (2) through ten (10) of the 10-year life of the certificate. The amount is \$5,000. This provision shall apply only to the extent that necessary funds are appropriated to the Department.~~
- ~~3.19 “Three (3) continuous years” means the three-year period following certification that includes the year of certification and the two years immediately following certification.~~
- ~~3.20 “Three (3) years of teaching in the Arkansas public school system”, as required for state support of candidacy, shall be credited beginning no earlier than the year in which the initial license to teach in an Arkansas public school is issued.~~

#### 4.00 Selection Process and Requirements for NBPTS Support for Payment for NBPTS

Candidacy

- 4.1 ~~Qualified NBPTS applicants will establish eligibility for funding by~~ Application criteria:
- 4.1.1 ~~An applicant shall complete successfully completing~~ the official application process established by the Department;
  - 4.1.2 ~~never having received any prior state funding for participation in a certification area in the NBPTS program~~ An applicant shall not have received prior state funding for NBPTS candidacy;
  - 4.1.3 ~~verifying~~ An Applicant shall verify at least three (3) years teaching experience in an Arkansas public school ~~that can include the years following initial licensure, a current standard Arkansas teaching license, and current employment as an Arkansas public school classroom teacher in a classroom setting beginning no earlier than the year in which the applicant's first license to teach in an Arkansas public school is issued; and~~
  - 4.1.4 An applicant shall provide evidence that the applicant has taught teaching in an area that correlates to an available and suitable National Board certificate area.
- 4.2 Selection process:
- 4.2.1 A candidate shall meet or exceed the cut score for the application process, recommended by the Advisory Committee and set by the State Board.
  - 4.2.2 ~~When candidate demands exceed funding availability, the~~ The NBPTS Advisory Committee will review applications and recommend to the Department an appropriate selection of candidates to be funded.
- ~~4.3 — At the time that the National Board establishes a certification for school administrators and an Arkansas district level central office administrator becomes national board certified, the district level central office administrator will be eligible to receive incentive bonuses in the amount awarded to NBCTs for every year for the life of the NBPTS administrator's certificate.~~
- ~~4.4 — Achieving NBCT status prior to renewal of the Arkansas standard teaching license satisfies professional development requirements for the one-year teaching license renewal period. The Department will supply the appropriate form to be submitted with the teaching license renewal documents.~~
- ~~4.4.1 — Achieving a total score of 225 across all of the ten entries submitted to the NBPTS satisfies one half of the professional development requirements for the period between the beginning and end of one renewal period.~~

4.3 Payment of component costs for NBPTS Candidacy:

4.3.1 The Department shall pay the following costs associated with NBPTS candidacy for candidates selected for participation under these rules:

4.3.1.1 The cost of submission for the four (4) components, excluding: (a) the application fee assessed by the National Board, (b) retake fees, and (c) renewal fees; and

4.3.1.2 Substitute teacher pay for up to three (3) days of approved paid leave.

4.4 A candidate who pays for the cost of the first certification component may apply to the Department for reimbursement of that cost and for state support of the remaining certification components if the Department receives the application within sixty (60) days after the candidate passes the submitted component. The Advisory Committee shall review the application and make a recommendation to the State Board for funding.

4.5 Repayment of funding:

4.5.1 Repayment of state funds for the NBPTS is required if a recipient:

4.5.1.1 Does not complete the certification process within three (3) years after the NBPTS enters the candidate into its certification program; or

4.5.1.2 Becomes a NBCT with the support of state funds, but for the three-year period following certification that includes the year of certification and the two years immediately following certification, does not teach in an Arkansas public school classroom or does not serve as a building-level administrator, a building-level assistant, an instructional facilitator, or instructional leader, as applicable.

4.5.2 A candidate required to repay funds under this section may seek a waiver of repayment from the State Board if the candidate was forced to withdraw from candidacy due to:

4.5.2.1 The death or disability of the teacher, or

4.5.2.2 Other serious extenuating circumstances approved by the Advisory Committee, including without limitation health related problems verified by a licensed physician.

6.14.6 The State Board ~~can revoke~~ may suspend a recipient's teaching license for failure to repay state funds provided under these rules. The teaching license may be reinstated upon full payment as provided in the ADE Rules Governing

Educator Licensure.**5.00 Payment of Fees and Bonuses for NBPTS Candidacy and Certification Incentive Bonuses**

5.1 For a NBCT who began the process of *initial* certification ~~or recertification process~~ or was certified or recertified before January 1, 2018:

5.1.1 The Department shall pay a yearly incentive bonus to a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal who is selected to participate in the NBPTS program under these rules and who at the time of receiving the bonus:

5.1.1.1 Is employed full time as a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal in an Arkansas public school;

5.1.1.2 Is a NBCT ~~certified on or after August 1, 2009 who moved into the state before January 1, 2017,~~ and who after working a minimum of three (3) years with National Board certification as a classroom teacher or as a building-level administrator or building-level assistant administrator in an Arkansas public school district is employed full time as a teacher in an accredited teacher preparation program at a state-sponsored institution of higher education: ~~or~~

5.1.1.3 Is a NBCT ~~certified on or after August 1, 2009,~~ and who moves into the state on or before January 1, 2017, and either: is employed full time as a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant principal in an Arkansas public school; or

5.1.1.4 Is a NBCT certified on or after August 1, 2009, and who moves into the state on or before January 1, 2017, and after working a minimum of three (3) years with National Board certification as a classroom teacher or as a building-level administrator or building-level assistant administrator in an Arkansas public school district is employed full time as a teacher in an accredited teacher preparation program at a state-sponsored institution of higher education.

5.1.2 A NBCT who meets the qualifications of Section 5.1 and is working *full-time* in a school, including an open enrollment public charter school, that is not a high-poverty school or a high-poverty charter school shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for *the length of the certification or the recertification, but for* no more than ten (10) school

years.

- 5.1.3 A NBCT who meets the qualifications of Section 5.1 and is working full-time in a school that is a high-poverty school that is not in a high-poverty school district shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the length of the certification or the recertification, but for no more than ten (10) school years.
- 5.1.4 A person who meets the qualifications of Section 5.1 and is working full-time in a school that is a high-poverty school in a high-poverty district or is a high-poverty charter school shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the length of the certification or the recertification, but for no more than ten (10) school years.
- 5.2 For a NBCT who began the certification process AND was certified after January 1, 2018, the Department shall pay a yearly incentive bonus to a classroom teacher, an instructional facilitator, or an instructional leader as follows:
- 5.2.1 A NBCT who meets the qualifications of Section 5.2 and is working full-time in a school, including an open enrollment public charter school, that is not a high-poverty school or a high-poverty charter school shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for no more than five (5) school years.
- 5.2.2 A NBCT who meets the qualifications of Section 5.2 and is working full-time in a school that is a high-poverty school that is not in a high-poverty school district shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for no more than five (5) school years.
- 5.2.3 A person who meets the qualifications of Section 5.2 and is working full-time in a school that is a high-poverty school in a high-poverty district or is a high-poverty charter school shall receive a yearly incentive bonus of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for no more than ten (10) school years.
- 5.3 Bonuses shall be paid by June 1 of each year.
- 5.4 A person shall not receive in the same school year more than one (1) yearly incentive bonus under Section 5.2; and
- 5.5 A person shall not receive in the same school year both a bonus under Sections 5.1 and 5.2.
- 5.5.1 A person who, as of December 1, 2017, meets the qualifications for a yearly incentive bonus under both Sections 5.1 and 5.2 may make an irrevocable election to receive future yearly incentive bonuses under Section 5.2 by filing a written election with the department no later than July 1, 2019.
- 5.6 The Department shall not pay an incentive bonus or any increase in an incentive



bonus retroactively.

- 5.7 The Department shall cease paying an incentive bonus to a person who:
- 5.7.1 Has received an incentive bonus for ten (10) school years;
  - 5.7.2 Leaves the full-time employment of an Arkansas public school district;
  - 5.7.3 Becomes employed as a district-level central office administrator;
  - 5.7.4 Is employed by an Arkansas institution of higher education and does not teach in an accredited teacher preparation program; or
  - 5.7.5 Is employed by an education service cooperative and does not teach in a classroom with students.
- 5.8 A person shall not receive a bonus under multiple sections of these rules in the same school year.
- 5.9 *A traveling teacher who is eligible for a bonus under these rules shall receive the bonus for the school that the teacher's contract identifies as the teacher's home base.*
- ~~5.1 The Department shall pay full tuition for the NBPTS initial participation fee, one retake entry fee, and up to three days of school release time to qualified teacher applicants as funds are available.~~
- ~~5.2 The Department shall pay a starting bonus in the first year of certification and a yearly bonus for each of the remaining nine years of the ten year certificate to any NBCT who is employed in an Arkansas public school district (except as prescribed in Section 5.02.1) as a teacher in accordance with Section 3.05-3.06 of these rules. This bonus will be paid to:~~
- ~~5.2.1 Eligible NBCTs participating in State Board approved teaching excellence programs such as Arkansas Teacher of the Year, or~~
  - ~~5.2.2 Any NBCT who has successfully completed the NBPTS certification as a classroom teacher and is employed in an Arkansas public school district as a building administrator or assistant building administrator, or~~
  - ~~5.2.3 Any NBCT after working a minimum of three (3) years with National Board certification as a classroom teacher or employed as a building level administrator or building level assistant administrator in an Arkansas public school district; a NBCT may be employed full time as a teacher in an accredited teacher preparation program at a state sponsored institution of higher education holding National Board certification on or after August 1, 2009.~~

~~5.2.3.1 A bonus payment shall not be made retroactively.~~

~~5.2.3.2 Bonuses shall be paid to those described in Section 5.02.3 of these rules 30 days prior to the closing of the fiscal year only if funds are available after payments are made to those eligible under sections 5.02, 5.02.1, 5.02.2, and 5.03 of these rules.~~

~~5.3 Any NBCT who moves into the state and teaches in an Arkansas public school classroom shall be eligible for the yearly bonus for every remaining year in the life of the NBPTS certificate; provided that the same bonus is available to a NBCT who moves into the state and assumes the position of building administrator or assistant building administrator in a public school district for the life of the NBPTS certificate.~~

~~5.4 Available funds for NBPTS state activities support functions in this order of priority: (a) payment of bonus incentives; (b) initial fee payments; (c) necessary program expenses; (d) support system expenses; and (e) retake entry fees.~~

~~5.5 No increase in the starting or yearly bonus is retroactive.~~

~~5.6 The Department will issue a provisional or standard Arkansas teaching license in compatible areas to any National Board certified teacher, building level principal, or building level assistant principal trained in and holding a valid license issued by a state other than Arkansas who moves to Arkansas, provided that the NBCT status is current at the time of license application and that the applicant passes the required criminal background check.~~

~~5.7 An Arkansas licensed teacher who personally pays the expenses of NBPTS candidacy and becomes a NBCT is eligible for a starting and yearly bonus under the same terms as a NBCT who achieves certification through state fee support.~~

~~5.8 Provisions of Ark. Code Ann. §§6-17-412 and §§6-17-413 apply only to the extent that necessary funds are appropriated to the Department.~~

## **6.00 Repayment of Fees for NBPTS**

~~6.1 Repayment of state funds for the NBPTS is required if a recipient:~~

~~6.1.1 Does not complete the certification process within three (3) years after entry;~~

~~6.1.2 Becomes a NBCT with the support of state funds, does not teach in an Arkansas public school classroom in an Arkansas public school district for three (3) continuous school years or does not serve as a building level administrator or building level assistant administrator for three (3) continuous years after achieving NBCT status.~~

~~6.2 Repayment of funds is not required if the candidate is forced to withdraw from candidacy due to:~~

~~6.2.1 death or disability of the teacher, or~~

~~6.2.2 other serious extenuating circumstances and/or health related problems verified by a licensed physician as may be recognized by the State Board.~~

~~6.3 The State Board can revoke a teaching license for failure to repay state funds.~~

### **7.006.00 Support Program for Teachers Selected to Participate in NBPTS Candidacy**

~~7.16.1~~ The State Board will establish a support program for teachers selected to participate in NBPTS ~~by the NBPTS Program that provides technical assistance to program applicants to ensure successful program completion, which may include without limitation:~~

~~7.1.16.1.1~~ Establishing a variety of support opportunities such as annual pre-candidacy orientations, regular meetings of participants, telephone/email contact with facilitators and NBCTs, and Department intervention with NBPTS if necessary;

~~7.1.26.1.2~~ Providing information on the NBPTS state support program on the Department web site;

~~7.1.36.1.3~~ Providing other assistance, if determined to be necessary by the Department; and

~~7.1.46.1.4~~ Designating Department staff to coordinate NBPTS activities at the state-level Providing other assistance determined to be necessary by the Department.

~~7.2 Provisions of Ark. Code Ann. §§6-17-412 and 6-17-413 apply only to the extent that necessary funds are appropriated to the Department.~~

~~7.36.2~~ Credit for professional development may be obtained pursuant to school district policy.

### **8.007.00 Monitoring for NBPTS Program Participation**

~~8.17.1~~ The local public school district that employs a NBCT ~~must shall~~ verify to the Department annually the employment status of that teacher for each year ~~of the ten-year life of the certificate~~ in which the NBCT is eligible for an incentive bonus.

~~8.2 A person shall not receive either a starting bonus or a yearly bonus if the person:~~

~~8.2.1 leaves the full-time employment of an Arkansas public school district;~~

~~8.2.2 becomes employed as a district-level central office administrator (subject to the provisions of Section 4.03);~~

~~8.2.3 is employed by an Arkansas institution of higher education and does not meet the requirements as defined in Sections 3.07 and 5.02.03 of these rules; or~~

~~8.2.4 is employed by an education service cooperative and does not teach in a classroom with students as defined in Sections 3.05-3.06 of these rules.~~

### **9.008.00 Funding for NBPTS Candidacy and Certification Limitations**

~~9.18.1 Provisions of these rules and Ark. Code Ann. §§6-17-412 and 6-17-413 apply only to the extent that funds are appropriated and available to the Department to pay for these provisions purposes.~~

~~8.2 Funding under Sections 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.1.4 shall be paid only if funds are available after funding all eligible candidates under Sections 5.1.1.1 and 5.1.1.3.~~

~~9.2 To the extent funds as provided for by Ark. Code Ann. §26-52-311(c)(3)(B) are available, such funds may be used to fund the “starting incentive bonus” and the “yearly incentive bonus” required in §§3.07 and 3.08 of these rules and required by Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-413.~~

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Chart 1. Bonuses (through 2030)



**NBCT YEAR OF BONUS**  
**(Act 937 of 2017)**  
*Effective 8/1/2017*

**LEGEND:**

- CT:** Classroom Teacher
- BLP:** Building Level Principal
- BLAP:** Building Level Asst Principal
- IF:** Instructional Facilitator
- IL:** Instructional Leader
- HPS:** High Poverty School
- HPCS:** High Poverty Charter School
- HPD:** High Poverty District

	YEAR OF CERTIFICATION OR RENEWAL	FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYMENT (NOT HPS, HPCS, OR HPS IN A HPD, or by election filed with ADE)			FOR HPS EMPLOYMENT (as CT, IF, IL, BLP, and BLAP)			FOR HPS IN A HPD EMPLOYMENT (as CT, IF, IL only)			FOR HPCS EMPLOYMENT (as CT, IF, IL only)		
		BONUS AMOUNT	MAX. # OF YRS	FINAL BONUS YR	BONUS AMOUNT	MAX. # OF YRS	FINAL BONUS YR	BONUS AMOUNT	MAX. # OF YRS	FINAL BONUS YR	BONUS AMOUNT	MAX. # OF YRS	FINAL BONUS YR
<b>BEFORE 1/1/2018*:</b> Certified, renewed, OR began the initial certification process <b>OR</b> <b>BEFORE 1/1/2017*:</b> Moved to AR as NBCT	2007	\$ 5,000	10	2017									
	2008	\$ 5,000	10	2018	(Same as Public School Employment Column)			\$ 10,000	10	2018	\$ 10,000	10	2018
	2009	\$ 5,000	10	2019		\$ 10,000	10	2019	\$ 10,000	10	2019		
	2010	\$ 5,000	10	2020		\$ 10,000	10	2020	\$ 10,000	10	2020		
	2011	\$ 5,000	10	2021		\$ 10,000	10	2021	\$ 10,000	10	2021		
	2012	\$ 5,000	10	2022		\$ 10,000	10	2022	\$ 10,000	10	2022		
	2013	\$ 5,000	10	2023		\$ 10,000	10	2023	\$ 10,000	10	2023		
	2014	\$ 5,000	10	2024		\$ 10,000	10	2024	\$ 10,000	10	2024		
	2015	\$ 5,000	10	2025		\$ 10,000	10	2025	\$ 10,000	10	2025		
	2016	\$ 5,000	10	2026		\$ 10,000	10	2026	\$ 10,000	10	2026		
	2017	\$ 5,000	10	2027		\$ 10,000	10	2027	\$ 10,000	10	2027		
2018	\$ 5,000	10	2028	\$ 10,000		10	2028	\$ 10,000	10	2028			
2019	\$ 5,000	10	2029	\$ 10,000	10	2029	\$ 10,000	10	2029				
<b>ON/AFTER 1/1/2018*:</b> Began the initial certification process AND received certification (includes NBCT who moves to AR)	2019	\$ 2,500	5	2024	\$ 5,000	5	2024	\$ 10,000	10	2029	\$ 10,000	10	2029
	2020	\$ 2,500	5	2025	\$ 5,000	5	2025	\$ 10,000	10	2030	\$ 10,000	10	2030
	2021	\$ 2,500	5	2026	\$ 5,000	5	2026	\$ 10,000	10	2031	\$ 10,000	10	2031
	2022	\$ 2,500	5	2027	\$ 5,000	5	2027	\$ 10,000	10	2032	\$ 10,000	10	2032
	2023	\$ 2,500	5	2028	\$ 5,000	5	2028	\$ 10,000	10	2033	\$ 10,000	10	2033
	2024	\$ 2,500	5	2029	\$ 5,000	5	2029	\$ 10,000	10	2034	\$ 10,000	10	2034
	2025	\$ 2,500	5	2030	\$ 5,000	5	2030	\$ 10,000	10	2035	\$ 10,000	10	2035
	2026	\$ 2,500	5	2031	\$ 5,000	5	2031	\$ 10,000	10	2036	\$ 10,000	10	2036
	2027	\$ 2,500	5	2032	\$ 5,000	5	2032	\$ 10,000	10	2037	\$ 10,000	10	2037
	2028	\$ 2,500	5	2033	\$ 5,000	5	2033	\$ 10,000	10	2038	\$ 10,000	10	2038
	2029	\$ 2,500	5	2034	\$ 5,000	5	2034	\$ 10,000	10	2039	\$ 10,000	10	2039
	2030	\$ 2,500	5	2035	\$ 5,000	5	2035	\$ 10,000	10	2040	\$ 10,000	10	2040

\* ACA 6-17-413(a)

\*\* ACA 6-17-413(e)-(f)

\*\*\* # YRS SHOWN IS CUMULATIVE FROM DATE OF CERTIFICATION (10 yrs is max.)

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: S3/16/17 H3/27/17*  
2 91st General Assembly **A Bill**  
3 Regular Session, 2017

SENATE BILL 555

4  
5 By: Senator A. Clark

6  
7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 AN ACT TO TARGET AND ENHANCE INCENTIVE BONUSES FOR  
9 TEACHERS EMPLOYED IN HIGH-POVERTY SCHOOLS WHO OBTAIN  
10 NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS  
11 CERTIFICATION; TO MODIFY THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND  
12 CODIFY THE AMOUNT OF INCENTIVE BONUSES FOR CURRENT  
13 RECIPIENTS; TO REPEAL UNFUNDED INCENTIVE BONUSES; AND  
14 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

15  
16  
17 **Subtitle**

18 TO MODIFY INCENTIVE BONUSES FOR NATIONAL  
19 BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS  
20 CERTIFICATION.

21  
22  
23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

24  
25 SECTION 1. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-17-  
26 413(a)(3)(A) and § 6-17-413(a)(3)(A)(i)-(iii), concerning National Board for  
27 Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 (3)(A) The department shall pay a ~~starting incentive bonus of~~  
30 ~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000) upon receiving the certification of the~~  
31 ~~national board and a yearly incentive bonus of two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~  
32 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for every no more than ten (10) school year  
33 years or, in the case of a recertification obtained before January 1, 2018,  
34 for the life of the recertification for the life of the certificate of the  
35 national board to any classroom teacher, building-level principal, or  
36 building-level assistant principal who:



1 (i) Is selected by the State Board of Education to  
2 participate in the program of the national board;

3 (ii) Successfully completes the certification  
4 process of the national board;

5 (iii) ~~Receives~~ Has begun the certification process  
6 or has received certification or recertification of the national board before  
7 January 1, 2018; and

8

9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413(a)(3)(B) and (C), concerning  
10 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification funding, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (B)(i) A teacher certified by the national board who moves  
13 into the state on or before January 1, 2017 and is employed full time as a  
14 classroom teacher, building-level principal, or building-level assistant  
15 principal in an Arkansas public school district shall be eligible for the  
16 yearly incentive bonus of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for every school  
17 year the person is employed full time as a classroom teacher, building-level  
18 principal, or building-level assistant principal in a local public school  
19 district ~~for the life of the certificate of the national board~~ no more than  
20 ten (10) school years.

21 (ii) A teacher who holds national board  
22 certification on or after August 1, 2009, who moves into the state on or  
23 before January 1, 2017, shall be eligible for the yearly incentive bonus of  
24 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for every school year the teacher is employed  
25 full time ~~for the life of the certificate of the national board~~ no more than  
26 ten (10) school years if, after working for three (3) years with national  
27 board certification as a classroom teacher, building-level principal, or  
28 building-level assistant principal in a public school district in this state,  
29 the teacher is employed as a teacher in an accredited teacher preparation  
30 program at a state-supported institution of higher education if funds are  
31 available after payments are made to those eligible under subdivisions  
32 (a)(3)(A)(iv)(a) and (a)(3)(B)(i) of this section.

33 (C) ~~The starting incentive bonus and the yearly incentive~~  
34 ~~set forth in subdivisions (a)(3)(A) and (B) of this section shall increase~~  
35 ~~yearly as follows:~~

36 (i) ~~The starting incentive bonus and the yearly~~

1 ~~incentive for 2003 shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000);~~  
 2 ~~(ii) The starting incentive bonus and the yearly~~  
 3 ~~incentive for 2004 shall be four thousand dollars (\$4,000); and~~  
 4 ~~(iii) The starting incentive bonus and the yearly~~  
 5 ~~incentive for 2005 and each year thereafter shall be five thousand dollars~~  
 6 ~~(\$5,000).~~

7  
 8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-413, concerning bonus funding for  
 9 educators with a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards  
 10 certification, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

11 (e)(1) The department shall pay a yearly incentive bonus to a person  
 12 who:

13 (A) On or after January 1, 2018, began the certification  
 14 process and received national board certification; and

15 (B) At the time of receiving the bonus is employed full-  
 16 time in a public school, including an open-enrollment public charter school,  
 17 as a:

- 18 (i) Classroom teacher;
- 19 (ii) Instructional facilitator; or
- 20 (iii) Instructional leader.

21 (2) A yearly incentive bonus under this subsection shall be:

22 (A) Two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for a  
 23 person who at the time of receiving the bonus is employed full-time in a  
 24 public school, including an open-enrollment public charter school, that is  
 25 not a high-poverty school or a high-poverty charter school;

26 (B) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a person who at the  
 27 time of receiving the bonus is employed full-time in a high-poverty school  
 28 that is not in a high-poverty district; or

29 (C) Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for a person who at the  
 30 time of receiving the bonus is employed full-time in a:

- 31 (i) High-poverty school in a high-poverty district;
- 32 or
- 33 (ii) High-poverty charter school.

34 (3) A yearly incentive bonus under this subsection shall be  
 35 limited as follows:

36 (A) A person shall not receive a two thousand five hundred



1 dollar (\$2,500) bonus under subdivision (e)(2)(A) of this section in more  
2 than five (5) school years;

3 (B) A person shall not receive a five thousand dollar  
4 (\$5,000) bonus under subdivision (e)(2)(B) of this section in more than five  
5 (5) school years;

6 (C) A person shall not receive a ten thousand dollar  
7 (\$10,000) bonus under subdivision (e)(2)(C) of this section in more than ten  
8 (10) school years;

9 (D) A person shall not receive any yearly incentive bonus  
10 under this subsection in more than ten (10) school years;

11 (E) A person shall not receive in the same school year  
12 more than one (1) yearly incentive bonus under subdivision (e)(2) of this  
13 section; and

14 (F)(i) A person shall not receive in the same school year  
15 both a bonus under this subsection and a bonus under subsection (a) of this  
16 section.

17 (ii) A person who, as of December 1, 2017, meets the  
18 qualifications for a yearly incentive bonus under both this subsection and  
19 subsection (a) of this section may make an irrevocable election to receive  
20 future yearly incentive bonuses under this subsection by filing a written  
21 election with the department no later than July 1, 2019.

22 (f) As used in this section:

23 (1) "High-poverty charter school" means an Arkansas open-  
24 enrollment public charter school in which seventy percent (70%) or greater of  
25 the previous school year's enrolled students are national school lunch  
26 students as defined in § 6-20-2303;

27 (2) "High-poverty district" means an Arkansas public school  
28 district in which seventy percent (70%) or greater of the previous school  
29 year's enrolled students are national school lunch students as defined in §  
30 6-20-2303;

31 (3) "High-poverty school" means an Arkansas public school in  
32 which seventy percent (70%) or greater of the previous school year's enrolled  
33 students are national school lunch students as defined in § 6-20-2303; and

34 (4)(A) "Instructional leader" means a building-level  
35 administrator who is responsible for evaluating teachers or instructional  
36 staff.

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(B) "Instructional leader" includes without limitation a building-level administrator who is an evaluator as defined in § 6-17-2803.

*/s/A. Clark*

**APPROVED: 04/05/2017**