



National Board Certification Is Key Component Of Expanded Advanced Teaching Roles Program

-- NCASA and NBPTS Reports

Last month, [Senate Bill 681](#) became law, extending the 2016 Advanced Teaching Roles (ATRs) pilot program. The NC Department of Public Instruction will be issuing an RFP allowing local school districts to apply by October 15th to participate in the program. LEAs that apply will need to specify at least two of the following selection criteria for teachers to take on greater responsibilities in exchange for greater levels of state compensation:

1. Advanced certifications, such as National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification or a master's degree in the area in which the classroom teacher is licensed and teaching.
2. A rating of at least "accomplished" on each of the Teacher Evaluation Standards 1-5 on the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation instrument.
3. Evidence that the teacher has an average Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS) student growth index score from the three previous school years of 1.5 or greater and no individual EVAAS student growth index score below zero.
4. Equivalent demonstrated mastery of teaching skills as required by the new local compensation model.

"As the #1 state in the nation for National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs), North Carolina serves as a model for the rest of the nation," said NCASA Executive Director Katherine Joyce. "The newly expanded Advanced Teaching Roles program can make that national certification even more beneficial for current and future NC teachers."

Embedding National Board Certification in ATR systems will create a natural career ladder where teachers demonstrate their effectiveness and then move on to advanced roles where they can lead, grow, and share expertise with others, while earning higher pay and making North Carolina's teaching profession an even more attractive choice for the future.

"By making National Board Certification one of the requirements for teachers to assume Advanced Teaching Roles, local school district leaders can reward their most effective teacher leaders by encouraging them to pursue Board certification," said Ellen Sheratt, NBPTS's Vice President for Policy. "Moreover, there will be a greater incentive for North Carolina's accomplished teachers to stay in local schools, where their expertise and experience will benefit students and communities."

In addition to making permanent the expanded Advanced Teaching Roles program, enacted S681 also waives K-3 class size requirements for all participating schools within the participating LEA. NCASA will share more information on the application process for the Advanced Teaching Roles program when it becomes available.