

Score Release FAQs for First-time and Returning Candidates

Q1: When will I receive my score results?

A: Score results are expected to be released no later than December 31, 2016. When an exact date is identified, our website will be updated. Monitor www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/score-release for updates.

Q2: What time will you release scores?

A: We anticipate releasing scores by noon, CST on the date specified. We are unable to provide a more precise time.

Q3: How will I receive my score results?

A: We will release your score results to you via your personal National Board [account](#). Note: On the day of, and approximately 2-3 days following score release, you will only have access to your score report. All other aspects of your account, including payments, registration, and component selection, will be unavailable.

Q4: What preparations should I make in advance of score release?

A: Please take a moment to:

- Log in to your National Board [account](#) to ensure you recall your username and password. If necessary, reset your password or retrieve your username by clicking "[Forgot Username](#)" or "[Forgot Password](#)". (Note: Failure to confirm your username and password prior to the date of score release could result in delayed access to your scores.)
- Verify your preferred contact information (address, telephone number, and email address) and school district information is accurate and up to date.
- Familiarize yourself with the scoring process by reviewing the *Scoring Guide*, your certificate-specific *Sample Items and Rubrics* for Component 1, and your certificate-specific *Portfolio Instructions and Rubrics* located at boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Q5: How are the Selected Response Items (SRIs) scored and reported?

A: Selected response items are machine-scored. One point is awarded for a correct answer and zero points for an incorrect answer. (Note that there are five interspersed field test items which do not contribute to a candidate's score.) For the selected response items, the number of scorable items answered correctly will be converted to and reported as a score between 0 and 4.25. The conversion standardizes the meaning of performance across certificate areas and across all four components of the assessment. Raw scores (number correct) are not reported.

Q6: How are constructed response items and portfolio components scored?

A: Assessors will score your responses on the Component 1 constructed response items and all portfolio components (Components 2, 3, and 4). The National Board uses a 12-point score scale for all constructed response items and portfolio components. The score scale is based on four primary levels of performance (Levels 4, 3, 2, and 1), with plus (+) and minus (-) variations at each level. See *Scoring Guide* for detail.

Q7: What are the minimum score requirements?

A: There are three score requirements in order to achieve National Board Certification. They are:

- Assessment center section average score of at least 1.75 – The unweighted average score of the three constructed response items scores and the selected response item part score must be at or above 1.75.
- Portfolio section average score of at least 1.75 – The unweighted average score of the three portfolio component scores must be at or above 1.75.
- Total weighted score at or above the cut score - To be determined in 2017 after standard setting.

Q8: What is the Total Weighted Score requirement and when will it be confirmed?

A: Your total weighted score is comprised of the assessment center section and portfolio section scores with each component worth a certain percentage of the total weighted score.

In order to achieve National Board Certification, your total weighted score must be at or above the cut score. The total weighted score requirement will be determined in late 2017, after all four components for the revised assessment have been rolled out and standard setting can be completed.

For additional information about the section percentages and the percentage weight of components within the section, refer to the *Scoring Guide* located online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Note: The online score calculator will not reflect the weighting of scores until the new performance standard is established in late 2017.

Q9: What will my score report look like?

A: You can expect your score report to include the following:

- Your certification status.
- Your highest scores on each part of the assessment center component and your highest average score on the assessment center section.
- Your highest scores on each portfolio component and your highest average score on the portfolio section after completing all three components.
- Your highest total score after you have submitted all the components (available in 2017).
- Feedback statements if your score is less than 3.75 on a portfolio component.

Your Score Transcript, which can be accessed from the Scores page of your National Board account, displays all of your component scores by assessment cycle.

Q10: Why is the Total Weighted Score on my score report blank?

A: Your total weighted score and/or weighted section scores will not be computed until you have completed/submitted all the components and met the minimum section average score requirements.

Note: The online score calculator will not reflect the weighting of scores until the new performance standard is established in late 2017.

Q11: What are feedback statements?

A: Feedback statements appear on your score report if your score is less than 3.75 on a portfolio component. Feedback statements provide insight about the quality of your portfolio components. Assessors assign feedback statements to highlight points of weakness in a portfolio component to enable you to target areas for improvement. To learn more about feedback statements, review the *Scoring Guide* located online at boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Q12: Why is there a "0" or an "NS" on my score report?

A: If the space for a score assigned to a constructed response item or a portfolio component displays a "0" (zero), then one or more of the following applies:

- For a constructed response item, your submitted response did not meet the requirements to receive the minimum score of 0.75 on a constructed response item.
- For the portfolio components,
 - you did not submit a major piece of evidence such as the Written Commentary, the student work samples, or the video recording.
 - you were not visible in the submitted video recording.
 - your video recording was not viewable.
 - your submission contained student work and/or video-recorded footage that was in a language other than English (and/or the target language for World Languages) and did not include an explanation or a translation.
 - your video was edited outside of the editing rules (see your certificate-specific *Portfolio Instructions and Scoring Rubric* for the rules).
 - your video did not correspond to your Written Commentary.

If the space for a score assigned to a constructed response item or a portfolio component displays the "NS" (Not Scorable) designation, then one of the following may apply:

- For a constructed response item,
 - you did not schedule or attend your assessment center testing appointment.
 - you did not open the selected response part of the exam and did not attempt any of the items.
 - you did not open a constructed response item and did not view any prompts in the item.
 - you were suspected of plagiarism or cheating.
- For the portfolio components,
 - you did not submit a portfolio component.
 - you registered your portfolio component in the online system, but did not submit any artifacts to be scored.
 - your portfolio component submission revealed that you taught students who did not fall within the defined age parameters.
 - your portfolio component submission featured content that did not fall within the scope of your selected certificate.
 - you were suspected of plagiarism or cheating.

Q13: What is the score banking policy?

A: We will automatically bank your scores as you work towards completing all components for certification. Please be aware of the following rules and information:

- You must attempt each of the four components within the first three years of your candidacy.
- Every candidate has a five year window to achieve certification. If a candidate does not achieve certification within the five year window, the candidate may start the entire certification process again as a first-time candidate.
- There is no minimum or maximum score requirement to retake a component.
- You have up to two retake attempts for each component, and you can retake at any time during the five-year window; retake years do not have to be consecutive. You can have a year when you take or retake no components; however, it does not extend your three-year window to initially attempt each of the four components or the five-year window within which certification can be achieved.

- For Component 1, candidates can elect to retake any combination of the three constructed response items and/or the selected response part for each of the two retake attempts allowed at any time during the five-year window.
- The highest numeric score – whether it is the initial attempt or a retake score other than Not-scorable (NS) due to disqualification case – will be used to compute your total weighted score.
- Portfolio components submitted in accordance with the National Board’s retake guidelines and by the appointed deadline will be scored during the next regularly scheduled scoring cycle.
- Scoring cycles typically run from June 1 to August 31 of each year. For information on retake fees and deadlines, review the *Guide to National Board Certification*, located online at boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Q14: How do I know if/what I should retake?

A: You will not have all the information you need to definitively know whether you need to retake to achieve certification until you have completed all four components and the weighted score required for certification is confirmed in late 2017.

However, for the assessment center section (Component 1), you will know right away if you need to retake part(s) of Component 1 based on whether or not you have met the minimum average score of 1.75 required for the section. If you have earned less than a 1.75 average on the assessment center section, you may retake one or more parts of Component 1 in an attempt to earn a 1.75 or higher average assessment center section score.

An online score calculator to measure the impact of possible new scores will be available when your scores are released.

For additional information about how to evaluate your performance on the exam, how to know if/what you need to retake, and other retake considerations refer to the *Scoring Guide* located online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Q15: Why doesn’t the retake calculator show the weighting of my scores?

A: The online score calculator will not reflect the weighting of scores until the new performance standard is established in late 2017.

For Retake scenario examples, refer to the *Scoring Guide* located online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

Q16: How do I register to retake?

A: To register, complete the following steps:

- Log in to your National Board [account](#)* and pay the \$75 nonrefundable and nontransferable registration fee. (The registration fee must be paid before you can select a component.)
- Click “Purchase Component” to select the component(s) you would like to complete.
- Submit payment. Payment can be made at any time prior to the payment deadline.

Prior to registering, we encourage you to review the important dates, deadlines, and policy information contained in the *Guide to National Board Certification*, located online at www.boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates.

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