



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

July 27, 2012

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Revised *Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards*

On June 28, 2012, the Virginia Board of Education adopted revised [Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards \(Attachment A\)](#). The *Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards* were revised to clarify the eligibility criteria and to change the timeline for distributing incentive awards.

National Board Certification, that complements, but does not replace, a state's teacher license, is achieved upon successful completion of a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize effective and accomplished teachers who meet high and rigorous standards established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program is a means to recognize teachers who have achieved National Board Certification and reward this professional accomplishment.

In accordance with the provisions of Section [22.1-299.2](#) of the *Code of Virginia*, the Board of Education is responsible for administering the National Board Certification Incentive Award Program for eligible teachers and may issue guidelines governing the Program as it deems necessary and appropriate.

The 2012-2014 Appropriation Act (Chapter 3, 2012 Special Session 1 Acts of Assembly) sets forth the amounts of the initial and continuing bonuses for National Board Certified Teachers who meet the criteria for the incentive awards. These monies will be disbursed to the local school divisions to fund the initial and continuing awards for National Board Certified Teachers who meet the eligibility criteria as set forth in the revised *Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards*.

The Department of Education requests that the information in this memorandum and the attachment be shared with personnel in each school division who are responsible for verifying the eligibility of National Board Certified Teachers for the incentive award and submitting their names to the Virginia Department of Education. In addition, it is requested that the information in this memorandum be shared with the Director of Finance for each school division.

For further information about the revised *Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards* contact Mrs. Eleanor Joyce, national board coordinator, by e-mail at Eleanor.Joyce@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2471.

PIW/MRA/ebj

Attachment:

a. [Revised Guidelines for Distributing National Board Certification Incentive Awards](#) (Word)