

# National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Program

## Definitions

**Appeal** – Option to have educator’s program eligibility reviewed. Appeals can only be submitted for review if denied NBPTS bonus.

**Assignment** – Description and course code listed in CACTUS based on contracted scheduled time in a Utah local education agency (LEA).

**Audit History** – Information section located in the NBPTS/TSSP Application that lists in order of process all actions taken on the application.

**Benefit** – NBPTS funding percentage (or Tax Amount) provided to the LEA to cover the additional taxable bonus amounts that include Social Security, Retirement/401(k), Worker’s Compensation, and Medicare. The “Benefit Amount” is reported on the payroll under the “employer-paid benefits” section. The percentage is calculated on the approved URS rates. This portion is not paid directly to the educator but allocated to the appropriate benefit accounts.

**CACTUS** – Comprehensive Administration of Credentials for Teachers in Utah Schools. Database that tracks all teaching licensure information including USBE background checks, assignments, license areas, endorsements, degrees, and certifications.

**Certified Teacher** – A teacher who holds a current NBPTS certification.

**FTE (Full-time Equivalency)** – Total listed in the CACTUS system quantifying the full-time contract employment ratio.

**Local Education Agency (LEA)** – A public school district, or charter school.

**Endorsement** – Specialty field or area earned through completing required coursework or demonstrated competencies established by the USBE. The endorsement shall be listed on the professional educator license indicating the specific qualification(s) of the holder.

**State Qualified** – Assignment shows as USBE (USOE) qualified in CACTUS. Usually established by completion of the licensure and/or endorsement requirements.

**LEA Verify** – Status that the local education agency (district or charter) has reviewed the application.

**LEA Pass** – Status that local education agency (district or charter) has approved the application.

**National Board Certification** – NBPTS certification. A voluntary, advanced teaching certification that goes beyond state licensure. NBPTS has national standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. The National Board certifies teachers who successfully complete its rigorous certification process. Also referred to as a “Certified Teacher”.

**NBPTS Award** – NBPTS Certification bonus. Educator must possess a current NBPTS certification and classroom assignment to qualify. Bonus is higher if teaching in a Title 1 school.

**Payment Cycle** – Based on a Fiscal Year or “school year” calendar running from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> annually. The NBPTS bonus is only eligible for *Annual* cycle and is paid at the end of the program year (July).

**Public Educator** – A contracted charter or public-school educator in a Utah school. Private and accredited private schools do not qualify for the program.

**Title 1 School** - A school that receives funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Title I, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.

**Teacher or Educator** - An individual employed by a Utah LEA is licensed under Title 53A, Chapter 6, Educator Licensing and Professional Practices Act and has an assignment to teach in a classroom.

**Terms & Conditions** – Contractual documentation of NBPTS program requirements that must be agreed upon to participate in the bonus and pre-payment programs.

**TSSP Service Site** – Teacher Salary Supplement Program website ([www.tssp.schools.utah.gov](http://www.tssp.schools.utah.gov)) administered by the USBE. Designed for online applications for teachers to apply and receive the NBPTS salary supplement as well as LEA Administrative access for approval and funding.

**USBE (Formerly USOE)** – Utah State Board of Education (previously Utah State Office of Education).

**USBE Review** – Status that the USBE has reviewed the application and it is now pending final approval.

**USBE Pass** – Status that the USBE has approved the application.

The legislative code may be reviewed at <https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53F/Chapter2/53F-2-S523.html>.