



National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)

CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

Project Title:

Targeted High Need Initiative Comprehensive Candidate Support Centers (THNI CCSC)

Purpose:

The purpose of THNI CCSC Programs is to improve teaching and learning in high-need schools through the recruitment and support of teachers pursuing and achieving National Board Certification. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Inc. (NBPTS) is seeking applicants from local education agencies, higher education institutions, and other professional education organizations to support candidates by becoming a Targeted High Need Initiative Comprehensive Candidate Support Center (THNI CCSC) for the 2009-10 school year.

Through this THNI Initiative, the National Board will work with schools, state and local education agencies, institutions of higher education and other professional education organizations seeking to increase teacher quality and student achievement in high-need schools through the recruitment and support of new and experienced teachers pursuing National Board Certification and currently serving in a high-need school. The THNI Initiative will accelerate the development of an infrastructure for National Board Certification in high-need communities and will serve as a model of best practices and cost effectiveness.

NBPTS welcomes letters of interest from nonprofit organizations that recruit and support alternatively certified teachers with:

- strong pre-existing relationships with PK-12 school districts with in high need communities
- capacity to provide comprehensive candidate support, ranging from pre-candidacy through the assessment process; and
- ability to provide post-certification professional development for those who would advance to teacher leadership roles.

NBPTS will consider appropriate awareness, recruitment, and support activities designed to enhance the pipeline of teachers ready to pursue *Take One!*[®] or National Board Certification[®] candidacy.

THNI CCSC funds may be used for

- Subsidy funds to offset *Take One!*[®] and National Board Certification;
- Awareness and recruitment materials;
- Candidate support and mentoring; and
- Staff support

Level of Effort

Subject to receiving funding, NBPTS anticipates annual, renewable grant awards of approximately \$30K - \$40K per site

Duration:

This is a three-year initiative commencing in mid 2009.

Format

Letters of interest should be no more than four pages in length limited to addressing the following points:¹

1. Brief descriptive information of host organization, proposed partnering PK-12 school district(s), teaching population and statement of need
2. relationship with NBPTS, the National Board Certification process and the proposed partnering school districts
- 3.
4. A concise description of the proposed resource center activities. Activities may address but are not limited to
 - Awareness of National Board Certification in undergraduate and graduate degree programs;
 - Recruitment of candidates from surrounding high need school districts, particularly among racially/ethnically and linguistically diverse teachers;
 - Support of candidates pursuing certification, including mentoring activities
 - Post-certification professional development for those who would advance to teacher leadership roles
4. Resource requirements, and description of in-kind services

Selection Process

¹ Supporting materials may be appended

Letters of interest will be judged by relevance and potential to achieve NBPTS program objectives i.e., to support and encourage NBPTS participation among diverse PK-12 teaching populations in high needs schools.

Deadline

Letters of interest may be submitted electronically but no later than COB **Friday, April 3, 2007.**

Letters and inquiries should be directed to

Joyce Chaffers Loveless, NBCT

Director, Program Access and Equity

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

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http://www.nbpts.org/resources/diversity_initiatives

Invitations to submit a full proposal will likely be issued late fall 2009.