

# TAKE ONE!<sup>™</sup>

## A POWERFUL TOOL TO IMPROVE TEACHING QUALITY

**Take One!**<sup>™</sup> is a unique offering from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards<sup>®</sup> (NBPTS) that provides a standards-based approach for improving teaching practice and links student learning to effective instruction.

Teachers prepare and submit one pre-selected video portfolio entry from any of the current certificate areas of National Board Certification. A teacher can later transfer the score if he or she pursues National Board candidacy within two years.

### Why Take One!?

#### Better Teaching

*Take One!* improves teaching quality by providing teachers with the opportunity to reflect on their own classroom instructional practices within the context of national teaching standards.

#### Better Learning

*Take One!* helps teachers plan and achieve specific learning outcomes and adapt their teaching practices to the needs of individual students. This focus on student learning reinforces a strong link between instructional goals, teaching practice and student learning.

#### Better Schools

*Take One!* provides teachers and other educators the opportunity to form professional learning communities with a common language for—and commitment to—improved student achievement. These communities offer the opportunity for a sustained, integrated focus on student learning within individual schools and across districts and states.

#### Systemic Change

*Take One!* supports the growing movement toward a fundamental shift in how schools and districts approach instructional leadership using learning communities—especially in high-need schools.

- *Take One!* allows all teachers to “sample” National Board Certification—not only to improve their teaching practices within their classrooms and schools but also to begin the path toward National Board candidacy, if they so choose.
- Built on the strong research base of National Board Certification, *Take One!* helps meet goals for developing highly qualified teachers as defined by No Child Left Behind.

## How *Take One!* Works

A teacher chooses from one of the National Board's 24 certificate areas specific to his or her experience and students' subject area and developmental age.

The teacher studies the National Board Standards for the specific certificate area and evaluates his or her practice within the context of these standards while planning and delivering a video-taped classroom lesson or student activity. This job-embedded approach provides the teacher with unique, authentic and sustained professional development.

Each teacher analyzes a video-recorded lesson and provides a written commentary describing and analyzing it within the context of the National Board Standards. By aligning practice to professional teaching standards, a teacher identifies evidence of student learning and makes the critical link between teaching practice and student learning gains.

The video and the teacher's commentary are submitted to NBPTS for scoring. *Take One!* entries are scored with the same rigor as any entry for National Board Certification. Therefore, teachers can apply their scores if they pursue candidacy within two years.

## Who Can Take *One!*?

*Take One!* is available to all teachers as well as induction or pre-service teachers, principals, administrators, professors in colleges of education and those who provide support for National Board Certification candidates. The only requirement is that educators have access to a preK-12 classroom in order to complete the portfolio entry.

## Next Steps

For more information on *Take One!*:

- Visit: [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)
- Call: 1-800-22TEACH

## 24 Certificate Areas

### Art

Early and Middle Childhood  
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

### Career and Technical Education

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

### English as a New Language

Early and Middle Childhood  
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

### English Language Arts

Early Adolescence  
Adolescence and Young Adulthood

### Exceptional Needs Specialist

Early Childhood through Young Adulthood

### Generalist

Early Childhood  
Middle Childhood

### Library Media

Early Childhood through Young Adulthood

### Literacy: Reading – Language Arts

Early and Middle Childhood

### Mathematics

Early Adolescence  
Adolescence and Young Adulthood

### Music

Early and Middle Childhood  
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

### School Counseling

Early Childhood through Young Adulthood

### Science

Early Adolescence  
Adolescence and Young Adulthood

### Social Studies – History

Early Adolescence  
Adolescence and Young Adulthood

### Physical Education

Early and Middle Childhood  
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

### World Languages Other than English

Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood

## About the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan and nongovernmental organization focused on establishing high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. NBPTS advances the quality of teaching and learning by developing professional standards for accomplished teaching, creating a voluntary system to certify teachers who meet those standards and integrating certified teachers into educational reform efforts.

For more information about the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, visit [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)