Purpose
The vision of Fresno Unified School District is to ensure that every classroom has a highly effective teacher who demonstrates the ability and desire to educate students at a high level. To fulfill this vision, Fresno Unified will assist teachers working toward National Board Certification, the gold standard in teacher certification. The rigorous process to earn the National Board Certification builds the capacity of Fresno Unified teachers in ways that increase student achievement and close the achievement gap.

Why become a National Board Certified Teacher?
- National Board Certification is the gold standard in teacher certifications and is a rigorous, voluntary process that prepares teachers to perform at maximum effectiveness in the classroom and to step into leadership roles.
- Over 6,200 teachers in California and 110,000 teachers nationwide have achieved National Board Certification, and this mark of quality is widely recognized and growing in demand.
- Study after study reveals that the students of board certified teachers learn more—and the impact is greater for minority and low-income students.
- Schools and districts with a high concentration of NBCTs see marked improvements in student performance, school culture, collaboration, and teacher retention.
- Fresno Unified offers financial and support incentives.

What is National Board Certification?
- National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential. It complements, but does not replace, a state’s teacher license.
- National Board Certification is available in 25 certificate areas from Pre-K through 12th grade.
- National Board Certification is a performance-based, peer review process created for teachers, by teachers.
- More information about the NBCT experience is available at: http://www.boardcertifiedteachers.org

* Due to National level revisions, Cohort 1 will begin the certification process in Fall 2015 and complete the certification process Spring of 2018.

Eligibility Requirements
- A Bachelor's Degree
- A minimum of 3 full years of teaching
- A valid state teaching license
- Teachers who meet the Fresno Unified qualification criteria

Benefits
- NBC Fee assistance of $950
- Trained Candidate Support Provider and travel and lodging valued at over $4,000
- Additional pay of $1,000 per year that the certification is maintained
- The professional recognition of achieving National Board Certification

Teacher Supports & Resources in FUSD
- A cohort model with regular meetings to assist in preparing the NBCT requirements.
- Fresno Unified coordinator to support the local cohort
- Ongoing professional learning and relationships with fellow Fresno Unified NBC candidates.
- Opportunities to extend learning through strategic planning, collaboration, and self-reflection
- Leadership opportunities as certified teachers become support teachers to future cohorts.