



Board Certification (BC)

Through Board Certification (BC), the BMA recognizes mastery of the unique aspects of group process. How board members work together and with their superintendent determines the success of their deliberations.

The most important principle of boardsmanship is that individual board members have no legal status other than that of any ordinary citizen, except when sitting with the rest of the board in a legally constituted meeting. Through Board Certification (BC), the BMA recognizes mastery of the unique aspects of group process. How board members work together and with their superintendent determines the success of their deliberations.

Boards will earn their certification by having NJSBA staff conduct programs designed specifically for them. A separate time must be set aside for these workshops.

Board Certification requires that a board earn 18 credits within a three-year period. (If not completed in three years, credits from the first year will be dropped and credits from year four will be added.)

The board must:

- Participate in at least one full-day retreat or the equivalent in board workshops
- Verify through an NJSBA Policy Wellness Check that the board's policy manual is up-to-date
- Complete an analysis of the district's union contract by NJSBA's labor relations staff
- Demonstrate board effectiveness through the board self-evaluation and the New Jersey Department of Education monitoring process

If the composition of the board remains the same or if the board experiences less than one-third turnover in membership, credits will be maintained.

Due to the special nature of direct service training, each credit earned will equal one hour of training. To earn credits, attendance must include at least seven out of nine board members, five out of seven, or four of five. Core areas and suggested topics to address are as follows:

- Group Process
 - Decision making
 - Planning
 - Effective Meetings
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Quick Links**Mission Statement**

The New Jersey School Boards Association, a federation of boards of education, provides training, advocacy and support to advance public education and promote the achievement of all students through effective governance.

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