



Professional Educator Standards Board Association (PESBA)

The 13 states with independent educator standards boards have joined together to form the Professional Educator Standards Boards Association (PESBA) under the auspices of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC).

PESBA is a special committee of NASDTEC and plays an important role in the NASDTEC Executive Board. The first meeting of PESBA was held during the annual NASDTEC Conference which took place in Indianapolis during June of 2010. PESBA has been formed to foster communication among the standards boards, establish a national presence on behalf of professional educators and provide information and support to jurisdictions seeking to establish independent standards boards.

The formation of the organization was the result of a 2009 survey conducted by NASDTEC that gathered information about standards boards in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The survey found that thirteen states have independent standards boards, boards that regulate the education profession and are independent of the state's board of education.

States with independent standards boards include California, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming. The independent standards boards collectively license over 670,000 teachers and approve 268 educator preparation providers.

The Purpose and Roles of a Professional Educator Standards Board

Professional standards boards establish policies and requirements for the preparation, certification and ethical conduct of education professionals, ensuring that they:

- Are competent in the professional knowledge and practice for which they are certified.
- Have a foundation of skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to help students with diverse needs, abilities, cultural experiences, and learning styles meet or exceed learning goals.
- Are committed to research-based practice and career-long professional growth.

Roles of standards boards encompass both existing educator workforce and pre-service educators. Boards commonly serve as:

- **Policymakers.** Regulatory policy-making and oversight of educator preparation, certification, continuing education and assignment.
- **Program Managers.** Operation of legislatively-mandated programs.
- **Advocates.** Advocacy for mission-related policy, programs, and resources for students and educators.
- **Advisors.** Strategic advice and guidance to the Governor, the Legislature, and the SEA on the full range of issues affecting certified educators.