

BOARD MEMBER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Recognizing professional development for school board members to maximize their contribution to the school governance team.



“Continued growth for board members is a vital part of the learning process as an individual board member and as an entire board.”

“Training helps keep me updated on new laws and ideas.”

BOARD MEMBER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

MSBA annually recognizes school board members for continuing their learning beyond the state-required CBM Essential Training for new board members. Submit application and documentation no later than May 1. Requirements for the three levels of certification are below.

Advanced	Master	Distinguished
Earn Essential certification	Earn Essential and Advanced certification	Earn all other certification levels
NEW Fulfill Refresher Training requirement through MSBA for year of application	NEW Fulfill Refresher Training requirement through MSBA for year of application	NEW Fulfill Refresher Training requirement through MSBA for year of application
12 additional credits with four credits in one study strand	12 additional credits; at least six credits in one study strand	20 additional credits; at least six credits in one study strand
Attend two MSBA core meetings; at least one in the year of application	Attend two MSBA core meetings; at least one in the year of application	Attend two MSBA core meetings; at least one in the year of application
Read two books related to educational or board governance topics; at least one in the study strand	Read two books related to educational or board governance topics; both in the study strand	Read a book related to the study strand
Write a brief, two to three page reflection paper discussing a topic from the study strand in the context of your district and board service	Write a brief, two to three page reflection paper discussing a topic from the study strand in the context of your district and board service	Observe a school board meeting in two other districts and submit observation form and agenda for each
		Document at least eight separate activities in at least two categories and provide verification. Activities must have occurred within the most recent 3 consecutive years of board service unless otherwise noted.

Strands

- Board Operations & Governance
- Contemporary Issues in Education
- School Law & Finance
- School Safety & Security
- Student Achievement

Credit Requirement

Strand credit is awarded for participation in MSBA/CES conference concurrent sessions, regional meetings, and webinars; participation in MSBA Delegate Assemblies, online training, whole board workshops, board self evaluation; observing board meetings in other districts; reading extra books; and attending NSBA Conference sessions.

Core Meetings

MSBA events: Legislative Forum, Regional Meetings, Igniting Great Ideas Summit, Delegate Assembly, Safe Schools and Colleges Forum, Annual Conference; and NSBA events: Annual Conference, Federal Relations Network, Equity Symposium, CUBE Conference.

Book Requirement

Books must pertain to education or to board governance, must be authored in the last ten years, and must be at least 100 pages in length. A book must be on the approved booklist on the MSBA website or approved by MSBA in advance.

Distinguished Activity Options

Leadership Category

- Serve as MSBA Board of Directors representative and attend the entire meeting for at least 75% of the meetings
- Serve as MSBA Regional Executive Committee Chair and participate in at least 75% of the REC/RAC meetings
- Serve as regional representative or officer on the MSBA Advocacy, Delegate Coordinator or Leadership Development committee and participate in at least 75% of the meetings (service on two allowed for credit)
- Serve on MSBA FutureBuilders committee; participate in 75% of meetings/calls
- Represent MSBA on special committees or work groups (one allowed for credit)
- Fulfill responsibilities as an officer of your local board for at least one year
- Participate in at least 75% of the local board appointed/approved committee meetings for which you are a member
- Appointed to represent local board on local community committee

Advocacy Category

- Participate in two of the three MSBA Legislative Forums; interact with legislators
- Serve as the MSBA Delegate for your district and participate/vote in both the Delegate Assemblies during term as delegate
- Discuss MSBA monthly delegate input question
- Correspond with local, state and/or national elected officials in alignment with the MSBA platform for public education
- Participate in at least one MSBA Federal Relations Network (FRN) opportunity
- Participate in local/regional advocacy group

Presentations Category

Make a presentation on behalf of your board related to a district and/or board practice/program at

- MSBA Annual Conference
- MSBA Regional Meeting
- MSBA Igniting Great Ideas Summit
- CES Safe Schools and Colleges Forum
- National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference
- A local civic club/organization, educational organization or another school board (two allowed for credit)
- Appointed to represent local board in media interview

For more information including the applications for each level and documentation forms visit www.mosba.org, under Training - Events, email training@mosba.org or call 800-221-6722, ext. 329.