

Frequently Asked Questions

Monthly DVUSD National Board Cohort Meetings

Q: What will we do during the cohort meetings?

A: The cohort meetings are intended to support you on your journey, so they are flexible to your needs each month. Candidates can choose to work independently, collaborate in groups, get feedback from coaches, or complete any other tasks that help you achieve your National Board Certification.

Q: What should I bring to cohort meetings?

A: Bring the materials that will help you accomplish your goals each month. This might include: your laptop, Portfolio Instructions, student work sample(s), written reflection(s), video footage, favorite writing materials, etc. It could be helpful to develop an organizational system like a binder or special bag to carry these materials around so you have what you need each time we get together.

Q: Are the monthly cohort meetings required?

A: If you choose to apply for funding through the AZK12 center, you must attend at least one cohort meeting each month. You are absolutely welcome to attend more than one time per month!

Q: What happens if I miss a cohort meeting?

A: DVUSD coaches will offer cohort meetings twice a month. You can choose the date that works best for you each month. Also, you may miss up to two meetings a year without jeopardizing your AZK12 scholarship funding.

Q: When should I start coming to the cohort meetings?

A: You are welcome to attend as soon as you decide to start your National Boards journey; however, you are not officially required to attend the monthly cohort meetings until you apply for AZK12 funding.

Q: What are some other supports in addition to the cohort meetings?

A: You might like to attend events offered by the AZK12 Center including Coaching Saturdays and/or National Boards Retreats. These events are not required, but many candidates find them helpful. You can ask your coaches about their experiences and find more information about these opportunities on www.azk12.org. Note that some events have an “Early Bird Rate” that provides a discount for early registration.

Q: Will our group communicate during the month outside of the cohort meetings?

A: All DVUSD candidates will have access to a Canvas class that includes shared resources and a message board so candidates can collaborate regularly. The coaches will follow the message boards as well! If you have a personal question or something that can't be answered through the message board, feel free to contact the coaches by email or phone so we can help.

Q: How can I protect my work during my National Boards journey?

A: Choose a backup system for your work such as storing it on Google Drive, purchasing backup software like Time Capsule (for Mac), regularly save a copy on a flash drive, or email yourself a copy regularly, etc. Trust us on this one! Get your backup system in place right away. Learning the hard way is soul-crushing.