

# Employer Information Circular



<b>Volume: 17 Issue: 5</b>
----------------------------

<b>Date: April 2, 2001</b>
----------------------------

---

Membership Division · P.O. Box 15275 · Sacramento, CA 95851-0275

---

## National Board Certification Award Senate Bill 1666

Enactment of Senate Bill 1666 (Chapter 70, Statutes of 2000), effective September 23, 2001, amended Education Code Section 44395, which addresses National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification Incentive Programs (NBPTSCIP). The programs provide a one-time merit award of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to teachers who attain Board certification and an award of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to any teacher who attains the certification and agrees to teach at a low-performing school for at least four years.

California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) Employer Directive 00-01, Change in Definition of Creditable Compensation, informed employers that Education Code Section 22119.2(a)(7) was amended to read, "Money paid in accordance with a salary schedule by *an employer* (emphasis added) to an employee for achieving certification from a national board awarding certifications, in which eligibility for this certification is based, in part, on years of training or years of experience in teaching service, if the compensation is paid by the employer to all employees who achieved this certification." Compensation paid *by the employer* for this certification is considered creditable compensation for CalSTRS Defined Benefit Program.

However, the NBPTSCIP awards addressed in Education Code Section 44395 are administered by the Department of Education and not the employer. Therefore, the awards are not considered creditable compensation for retirement purposes and the employer should not withhold retirement contributions or report to CalSTRS on such programs.

If you should have any questions please contact your CalSTRS Membership Division Pension Program Representative.