

At the October 2008 meeting during the IMTA annual conference in Boise, a motion was passed to change the incentive award process for IMTA members who earn MTNA Professional Certification. Formerly, incentives of \$100 were awarded to the first five IMTA members upon successful completion of the Certification process. Under that system, the following teachers received awards: Christine Jensen (Payette), Heidi Leben (Nampa), Kristie Rue (Meridian) and Jill Wright (Boise). The fifth award has recently been made to Ann Paul (Post Falls) who completed the process in December 2008. These awards were granted over a period of nearly two and one-half years.

The current incentive program awards \$100 to each of the first five IMTA members who receive official notification of approval of their application to the MTNA Professional Certification Program. This change shortens the time period for the awards to be made. Under this system, we already have three recipients who have qualified: Robert Morrison (Star), Tonya Robertson (Boise), and Tawna Love (Meridian). Bob has completed the process and is our newest NCTM. On behalf of IMTA, these teachers are proudly congratulated!

According to records kept at MTNA headquarters, Idaho MTA has 193 members. As of March 31, 2009 we had 33 NCTM, at just over 17% of our membership. We are ranked at number 16 in the nation for that percentage, and it increases with each new NCTM.

In the April/May issue of AMT, news of big changes in the MTNA Certification Program was published. NCC Chair Rebecca Grooms Johnson, NCTM announced that as of January 1, 2010 all applicants are required to submit Teacher Profile Projects. The five projects combine and replace the current information and materials included in the Portfolio and the Final Exam. This will reduce, streamline and simplify the entire process. It will be possible to submit all or most of the fulfillments online.

As the Portfolio Option gained popularity, and teachers routinely included dvds, videos and other recorded documentation, it was decided to require these elements of all new applicants. The Portfolio and Exam options have been blended to create the Teacher Profile Projects.

Also, the Renewal Process has been updated and simplified. Rather than save records and collect documentation in 5-year increments, Renewals will be made annually for a proportional fee (of \$15 per year, instead of \$75 for 5 years). Teachers will submit a signed statement verifying their activities for students, professional involvement and continuing education. Permanent status is reached in 10 years, reduced from 15.

To learn further details of this news, please read the article on pages 53 and 54 of the April/May [American Music Teacher](#), or go to the mtnacertification.org website, or contact Debbie Wallace, NCTM and IMTA/TVMTA Certification Chair.

Respectfully submitted,
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