Component 1
This podcast offers you the opportunity to review the instructions for Component 1, brainstorm what you have done, and begin to plan to make choices about your Professional Growth Experiences called PGEs.

Component 1 gives you the opportunity to show that you have engaged in multi-faceted professional growth experiences that show evidence of

- Certificate-specific Content Knowledge
- Professional Development
- Knowledge of Technology
- Current Trends in the Field
- Issues of Equity and Diversity
- Variety
- Ongoing and Evolving Growth
- New learning influenced beyond the classroom
- That you have had a direct or indirect impact on student learning

As you review the instructions, you will see these reflected in the prompts, requirements, and evaluation rubrics. You may review the standards for explanations and examples to clarify your understanding of each of these.

The following activities will help you to analyze the instructions to understand what you need to do. Each of Component 1, 2, and 3 instructions are organized under these headings.

Rationale
First you should review the rationale on page 17 to identify the big ideas to be included in what you address in your PPG. Begin to identify the key concepts and connect to the list I previously stated.

Requirements
You should review the requirements for Component 1 on p. 17 of the PPG. You must select four Professional Growth Experiences. These are called PGEs. For each of the four PGEs, you will submit a 3-page written commentary to equal up to 12 pages maximum. For each of the four PGEs, you may submit a maximum of two pages of Samples of Products called SOPs. Many NBCTs make the mistake of thinking the SOPs are like documentation in Entry 4 of the initial certification. SOPs are different. They are Samples of Products. The glossary in the Profile of Professional Growth instructions on page 14 states that Samples of Products are “Pieces of evidence that provide clarification and/or enhancement of the PGE presented in Component 1.” Remember they are called “Samples of Products” not documentation. Page 18 of the PPG states that the Samples of Products may include the following: “certificates; work produced by students, colleagues, or you; letters from a colleague, parent, or community member; or representative pages from a course evaluation. These SOPs should provide clarification and/or enhancement of activities within the PGE.”

Prompts
You should also Review the prompts for Component 1 on the bottom of p. 17 and the top of p. 18. Note that you must answer prompts 1 and 2 for all 4 PGEs you select. You must answer questions 3-6 in one or more of the prompts but do not need to answer these prompts in each of the four PGEs. You may use the prompts to determine which professional growth experiences will enable you to answer the questions. Begin to list your PGEs that may meet the requirements and enable you to respond to the prompts.

Understanding the Requirements and Considerations for Thoughtful Selections
You should also review the section called, Understanding the Requirements. This bulleted list shares insights and definitions of terms to help you make decisions. Read the Considerations for Thoughtful Selections to learn more about the focus of Component 1 to guide your choices of PGEs.
Brainstorming
As you read and reread and reread the sections of information in these three pages for Component 1, begin to take notes on what you have done that may be included in your four PGEs.
- Brainstorm activities.
- List and/or organize activities for PGEs.
- Identify strategies for organizing PGEs.

Going Deeper into the Prompts
Now that you have read the three pages of the instructions for Component 1 and took notes on what experiences you may include, let’s look at the Specific and Required Prompts more deeply to use as a guide to help you select your PGEs. There are two mandatory questions for each PGE. Select one of your Professional Growth Experiences for focus as you review the questions.
- The first question reads, “Provide a context of the professional situation that indicates what need you are addressing.” There are two parts to this question that should be connected. You will have the opportunity to explain the context of what you were doing. Include the—when, how, where, and what you did. Then you may explain why you participated in this experience based on the need you identified. You should explain that need and give specific details about the need. Then you will be able to describe the context of your professional situation and the need of students, colleagues, parents, etc. that influenced why you participated in that PGE. What have you done since you became an NBCT that addressed a need and what was the professional context of that need and what did you do? You may also connect this question to the 8 Aspects to note that scorers will be looking for evidence that you can identify needs.
- The second question reads, “Describe the PGE. How does it show a response to needs of students, the professional community, parents, and/or self?” You must select a PGE that you participated in to make an improvement to address the needs of your students, colleagues, parents, or yourself.

Now let’s look at the other 4 questions. You do not need to answer these four questions for each of the four PGEs. You must answer each of these questions somewhere in Component 1 for one or more of the four PGEs. So once you have a brainstormed list of professional growth experiences, you should begin to see how you can select four that will complement one another so you may select four PGEs that cover the following questions:
- The third question reads, “Explain how you have acquired and deepened your content knowledge to remain current including use of research and/or use of professional activities.”
- The fourth question reads, “Explain how you have acquired and deepened your pedagogical knowledge to remain current including use of research and/or use of professional activities.”
- The fifth question reads, “Explain your acquisition of and/or effective and appropriate use of technology.”
- The last question reads, “Discuss how your interaction with colleagues, other professional groups, parents, and/or community members has enhanced your professional growth.”

The handout titled Organizer to Prepare to Write Responses to Prompt Questions for PGEs may help you to list PGEs and identify notes under each of the questions. You may list possible Samples of Products for each of your PGEs. You will begin to identify your strengths and gaps in meeting the 8 Aspects. You may begin to fill in this organizer to outline your thinking about each of the four PGEs.

It is important to connect the prompt questions to the evaluation rubric on page 7 so you may see that the questions will guide you to show evidence of the key concepts in the evaluation rubric. It may be helpful to place the handout titled 8 Aspects Tool next to the prompt questions and your notes. Notice how each of the questions give you an opportunity to show evidence of one or more of the 8 Aspects. You may also analyze Understanding Meeting Requirements on page 18 and connect these requirements to the Prompts and 8 Aspects.
Another handout titled *Outline of Professional Growth Experiences* may help you to write one PGE on the first page. You may then draft notes next to the prompts 1-6 on the handout that identifies evidence of your growth for the PGE.

You have begun to identify what you may include for PGEs based on the instructions, prompts, and evaluation criteria and 8 Aspects. However you cannot make the selection of the PGEs without understanding Components 2 and 3. Since you must make connections from the PGEs to Components 2 and 3, it is important to review these and continue to refine your possible selections of PGEs for Component 1.

The next three podcasts will give you the opportunity to review, connect, and begin to plan for Components 2 and 3 and the Reflection.