

Hello Evaluation Configurators:

As the 2023-24 school year opens, we are delighted to continue working with you to provide information, support, and resources for teachers and leaders. If you are a new evaluation configurator, we hope you find this newsletter beneficial as you settle into your new role. Regardless, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you may have.

The educator effectiveness team publishes this monthly communication to provide added reminders and support in meeting the deadlines of the [2023-24 TEAM Evaluation Timeline](#). We encourage you to share the [team-tn.org website](#) with educators in your district and check it for updates throughout the year.

If you have questions or feedback regarding any of the information contained in this email, please reach out to the appropriate contact listed below.

Action Needed

Educator Recognition

RISE Nominations Now Open

Nominations for the 2023-24 Tennessee [Recognizing Inspirational School Employees \(RISE\) Award](#) are **now open!**

RISE recognizes public school/public charter employees in any of the following occupational specialties: **paraprofessional, clerical and administrative services, transportation services, food and nutrition services, custodial and maintenance services, security services, health and student services, technical services, and skilled trades.**

Anyone—directors, principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public—may submit [nominations](#) by **September 17, 2023**.

The department will nominate the top two finalists in Tennessee to the USDE in November and will recognize these finalists at the annual Principal and Supervisor of the Year celebration in the fall. The U.S. Secretary of Education will then select a single classified school employee from among the state-level nominees to receive the national RISE Award by spring 2024.

For more information on the Tennessee RISE Award, please visit the [RISE Award website](#).

With questions, please contact [Sarah Brown](#).

Key Deadlines for August

Deadline	Action	Owner(s)	Resources	Contact
Aug 31, 2023	Team evaluator recertification process closes at 11:59 p.m. CT.	Evaluation Configurators Evaluators	TEAM Training Registration and Information	TEAM.Questions@tn.gov

Recently Released Resources

Evaluation Resources

The department has released several resources to support teachers, leaders, and observers with various components of teacher evaluation. Please share these with your colleagues as appropriate.

- [Charter School Evaluation Timeline | TEAM-TN](#)
- [First and Second Grade Portfolio Teacher Guidebook](#)
- [Pre-K and Kindergarten Portfolio Guidebook](#)
- [2023-24 TEAM Evaluation Timeline](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: Early Grades Educators](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: College, Career, and Technical Educators \(CCTE\)](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: English Learners Educators](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: Special Educators](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: Physical Educators](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: Alternative Educators](#)
- [TEAM Support Guidance Documents: Gifted Educators](#)

TN Compass Reports Spotlight

TN Compass Reports

Evaluator Credentials Report

This report shows active credentials held by the educator (teacher, administrator) for the current school year, including CLASS certification. This report may be filtered by credential role. This report works best in Excel.

Staff Observers Report

This report shows all credentialed observers in the district as well as observer permissions granted. This report may be filtered by school, role, credential dates, and observation permissions. To observe teachers or leaders, a credential must be active, and the permission must be granted by the district. This report works best in Excel.

Office Hours

Office Hours

- The 2023-24 **Evaluation Configurator** office hours will begin Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. CST. They will occur the first Thursday of every month. [Click here to join the meeting.](#)
- The 2023-24 school year **Portfolio Lead** office hours will begin Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. CST. They will occur the first Thursday of every month. [Click here to join the meeting.](#)

Teacher Tools: We encourage you to share the following with teachers in your district or charter.

Teacher Resources

TDOE Welcomes Lizzette Reynolds as Tennessee Commissioner of Education

Lizzette Gonzalez Reynolds currently serves as Tennessee's Commissioner of Education. She was sworn in on June 29, 2023. Please view her welcome message [here](#).

2023 District-Level TCAP Data Release Updates

On Tuesday, June 18th, the department [released](#) the 2023 district-level TCAP data. Like the state-level TCAP data, district-level assessment data is available on the new and improved dashboard housed on the [State Report Card](#).

Licensure Requirement Reminder

The Tennessee Literacy Success Act (TLSA) requires that teachers in the state of Tennessee demonstrate knowledge of foundational literacy skills instruction. As a reminder, beginning August 1, 2023, all teachers in Tennessee with a qualifying [endorsement](#) must demonstrate compliance with TLSA requirements when submitting licensure transactions.

TLSA provides two pathways for demonstrating knowledge of foundational literacy instruction: completing a foundational literacy skills course **OR** passing a foundational literacy instruction assessment.

The Tennessee Early Literacy Assessment (TELA) was fully approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) during the June 2023 special-called board meeting. Educators may now [take and pass the TELA](#) as one option to meet TLSA licensure requirements.

Educators may also still meet the TLSA requirements for licensure by completing Course 1 of either the [Early Reading Training](#) or [Secondary Literacy Training](#).

Additional information for candidates on how to access the assessment can be found [here](#). As a reminder, moving forward, all candidates for licensure, including recent EPP graduates and out-of-state educators seeking reciprocity in TN, will need to meet the TLSA requirements.

For additional information on TLSA, please visit our [TLSA](#) page on Best for All Central.

Please contact Educator.Licensure@tn.gov with any questions pertaining to licensure or EarlyReading.Training@tn.gov with questions regarding the foundational literacy skills courses or TELA.

To stay informed regarding all evaluation-related updates, please [subscribe](#) to the Human Capital Update newsletter. Additionally, all monthly evaluation configurator emails can be found on the [TEAM website](#). To see past emails, visit the homepage and scroll down to “Monthly Emails.”

Thank you for all that you do to support Tennessee’s students and teachers!

Best,
Educator Effectiveness
TEAM.Questions@tn.gov