

Projected 2026-27 Tennessee Educator Recognition Timeline

By December 5, 2025	District directors of schools (or their designees) submit names of district-level Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year. Up to three names may be submitted, one teacher per each grade-band—pre-K & Elementary, Middle, and High—through the district-level Teacher of the Year Report Form & District Level 2026-2027 TN POY SOY Nomination Form Novice Teacher of the Year Nomination Form
By Dec. 13, 2025	Department sends nominees the link to the Teacher, Principal, and Supervisor of the Year.
By Feb. 9, 2026, 11:59 p.m. CT	District-level Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year submit part I of the application to enter the regional level selection process.
March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoring committee selects the 2026-27 Region-level Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year Semi-Finalists for grade bands pre-K & elementary, middle, and high school. • Department announces 27 Region-level Teacher, Principal, and Supervisor of the Year Semi-Finalists—three in each CORE region, one in each grade band. • Semi-finalists receive part II of the application.
March 16, 2026	Aspiring Educator Award Application due Novice TOY Semi-Finalist Application Due
By May 11, 2026, 11:59 p.m. CT	Region-level Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year submit part II of the application to continue with the semi-finalist selection process. Exemplary Educator Nominations due
June 2026	Nine Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year selected representing each CORE region and Shelby County/Municipals. RISE Award Nominations Open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement of the Teacher Principal, and Supervisor of the Year finalists. • Finalist interviews held virtually.
July 15, 2026	RISE Award Nominations Close
September 2026	Excellence in Education celebration