



**BEST FOR ALL**  
#TNBestforAll

## Supporting Local-Level Awardees in State Selection

Office of Preparation and Performance | December 2021



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**BEST FOR ALL**  
We will set all students on a path to success.

### ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

### STUDENT READINESS

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

### EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE IN WHICH TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL

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## Agenda

- The Importance of Supporting Awardees
- Applicant Resources from the Department
- Best Practices
- Brainstorming Session!
- Ideas for Support
- Additional Resources

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## Answer in the Chat: What is one thing you hope to gain from this training session?



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## Learning Objectives

Following the completion of this webinar, learners will be able to:

- Identify key best practices for supporting awardees
- Implement support opportunities that encourage district-level awardees to participate in the state-level process



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## Norms

- Please remain on mute throughout the session until asked to unmute and share.
- If you have any questions or comments throughout the presentation, please put them in the chat.
- During breakout group sessions, please plan to have your camera turned on and to be **engaged** and **contributing**.



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## Materials

- The following materials for this webinar can be located on the Educator Recognition website:
  - [Educator Recognition Guidebook for Districts](#)
- Applicant support materials can be accessed on each award program's website:
  - [Teacher of the Year](#)
  - [Principal of the Year](#)
  - [Supervisor of the Year](#)



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**Answer in the Chat:**  
How does your school/district currently support local-level awardees in state-level selection?



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## The Importance of Support

Providing support to your awardees in state-level selection...

- reduces the stress of awardees.
- better positions awardees to perform more competitively in the state-level selection process.
- continues to build positive relationships with awardees.



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## Best Practices

- Empower awardees with clear communication about next steps.
  - Consistently communicating deadlines and opportunities for support to awardees increases the likelihood that awardees will take the time to complete the application to move forward in the process.
- Provide prompt, critical feedback to awardees to help them improve their application.
  - Sharing high-level notes from the review committee allows awardees to strengthen their applications before advancing to the region-level selection process, bettering the chance that they are recognized at the region and state level.
- Pair awardees with a mentor to support them in editing their application and preparing for region-level selection.
  - The outside perspective of a mentor can push educators to recognize the value of their own experience as well as strengthen the application overall through providing constructive feedback.



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## How does the department support local-level awardees in state-level selection?



- New for the 2022-23 selection cycle, the department has released the Teacher of the Year Guidebook for Applicants, the Principal of the Year Guidebook for Applicants, and the Supervisor of the Year Guidebook for Applicants.
- Additionally, the department will offer a three-part webinar series for Teacher of the Year, Principal of the Year, and Supervisor of the Year applicants.
  - Educators can register [here](#) to attend the Teacher of the Year webinar sessions.
  - Principals and supervisors can register [here](#) to attend any of the Principal and Supervisor of the Year webinar sessions.
  - All webinars will be recorded and available on the [Teacher](#), [Principal](#), and [Supervisor](#) of the Year websites.
- Applicants will also have access to weekly office hours from 3-4 p.m. CST each Wednesday from January 5 to May 25. **Access office hours [here](#).**

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## Time to Brainstorm!

### Take 10 minutes in breakout rooms to do the following:

- Identify **three** potential ways your school or district could support local-level awardees in the state-level selection.

You can use the guidebook to support you or brainstorm new ideas with your peers!

**After breakout rooms, we'll come back together as a group to share out.**



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## Ideas for Supporting Awardees

- Host a writer's workshop for all school- or district-level awardees, where awardees collaborate with one another and with mentors to improve their application.
- Conduct a practice interview for awardees and utilize questions from the associated department application guide.
- Provide awardees with a mentor or list of mentors who is willing to review their application and provide feedback prior to the application deadline. Be sure to identify a priority deadline by which to seek feedback such that mentors are not overwhelmed with last minute requests!

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**Answer in the Chat:**  
What is one action you will take to improve the way your school/district supports awardees in state-level selection?

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## Additional Resources

- **[Educator Recognition Guidebook for Districts](#)**: Includes program criteria, timelines, sample materials, and best practices for districts implementing recognition programs from nomination to engagement
- **[Educator Recognition Website](#)**: Includes specific program pages with resources for applicants and 2022-23 cycle-specific information



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## Thank you for your engagement!

- Please complete [this survey](#) to share your feedback on this session.
- With any additional questions, please contact [Janelle.Brown@tn.gov](mailto:Janelle.Brown@tn.gov).



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