

## 2024-25 TISA Accountability Report Frequently Asked Questions

This document outlines many of the questions district staff have shared with the department since the release of this template. The department will host a series of office hours sessions throughout the month of September to answer questions and share additional guidance on how to complete the report. Many of these questions, in addition to others received during superintendent presentations, are shared below.

As a reminder, in accordance with [T.C.A. 49-3-112](#), all districts are required to present a TISA Accountability Report for public comment and local board approval before submitting the report to the department on November 1st of each year. Public comment must occur at the local level and documentation of how the public comment requirement was met by the district should be included with the report submitted by the district. For additional information on what is required in the report, please contact [tnedu.funding@tn.gov](mailto:tnedu.funding@tn.gov).

### **Should retake assessment data be included when determining the grade 3 ELA proficiency goal?**

No. The TCAP retake opportunity is a pathway to promotion to fourth grade for students who score “below” or “approaching” on the English Language Arts (ELA) portion of their spring Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) assessment. The retake assessment may be used to determine the appropriate intervention path for these students. Though the retake assessment is generally representative of the overall 3rd grade ELA TCAP Blueprint it does not include the writing portion of the spring TCAP assessment. For this reason, goal setting should only include the 3rd grade ELA TCAP.

### **Are districts required to include five goals?**

Districts must have multiple goals but five are not required. One of the goals must be the grade 3 ELA proficiency goal.

### **Must the goals and strategies/action steps in the report align to those in the annual LEA plan?**

Districts are not required to align the goals in the TISA Accountability Report to the achievement goals of the LEA plan. However, the department encourages districts to consider the achievement goals and associated strategies and action steps prioritized in the LEA plan to determine the amount of alignment that is appropriate for the district and how that may support completion of the report.

### **Are goals required to be 5 years?**

The district will determine the length of the multiyear goals set within their report.

### **If a district's grade 3 ELA proficiency rate is already at or above 70% should the district include a plan to increase proficiency by 15% of the gap?**

No, this is not a requirement if the district is already meeting 70% or more of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students proficient in ELA. In this case, the district should establish a goal to maintain or increase the grade 3 ELA proficiency rate.

**Is it required that our local board of education approve the plan?**

Yes, reports should be approved by the board and documentation should be submitted with the report by Nov. 1. However, the department recognizes that some districts may require additional flexibility given the report timeline. Therefore, if a district does not have a local board meeting prior to Nov. 1, documentation is required indicating when board approval will be acquired. The department will accept revisions to the TISA Accountability Report based on local board approval after Nov. 1. Revised reports and board approval documentation should be uploaded into ePlan.

**Will the district have a chance to revisit the report each year?**

Yes. Reports are due annually by November 1.

**What do you consider acceptable methods for public input?**

Various methods can be used to collect public comments, such as surveys, presentations in local board meetings, or posting on the district website with an email address to submit public comment. The district should ensure they are seeking comments from parents, educators, and local community members. As noted on the report, the district is expected to provide a description of the public comment collection and implementation.

**How long does the report need to be up for public comments?**

The law does not specify a length of time. Districts should ensure they provide ample time to receive public comment prior to submission to the department.

**How will accountability be monitored for this report?**

The law requires submission of the report and creation of a TISA progress review board which will review these reports yearly to see progress made toward stated goals. For additional details see [Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-3-114](#).

**In the funding section, can we include strategies funded through sources other than TISA?**

The budget description column is focused on the TISA funding. You should include strategies and action steps funded through TISA dollars. If it's helpful to provide additional high-leverage strategies and action steps to understand the improvement work toward the goals the district may do so. However, the budget description should clearly differentiate how strategies and action steps are funded.

**How do we submit our TISA Accountability Report?**

Reports should be uploaded to the TISA Accountability Report section of the LEA Document Library in ePlan.