



For School Year 2026/2027

The Tennessee Purple Star School Award (TN-PSSA)

The Tennessee Purple Star School Award recognizes schools that are dedicated to supporting military-connected students and their families. To earn this award, a school must complete a series of required activities and at least one optional activity.

Required School Activities

A school must complete **ALL FIVE** of the listed activities and provide evidence of completion through pictures, videos, flyers, registration sign-in, links, etc.

- 1. The school must have an assigned staff Point of Contact (POC) for military-connected students and families.**
 - a.** The POC serves as the primary liaison between the family and the school.
 - b.** The POC may be a counselor, administrator, teacher, registrar, or another staff member who is well-equipped to support incoming and exiting military students and their families.
- 2.** The school-based POC must complete a Professional Development (PD) component that covers topics outlined by the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) or special considerations for military-connected families and students.
- 3.** The school maintains a dedicated webpage with support materials and information for military-connected families and students.
 - a.** The link must be easy to find on the school's home page.
 - b.** All information must be current and contain the POC contact information.
 - c.** Topics may include:
 - i.** Registration and Orientation information.
 - ii.** What documents must be provided from the previous (sending) school
 - iii.** Special Needs documents, including parental rights documents and Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
 - iv.** Special situations
 - v.** MIC3 Rules and Regulations (State and Federal)
 - d.** Other Topics:
 - i.** Extracurricular activities
 - ii.** Testing information

- iii. State report card information
- 4. Provide professional development to the staff regarding special considerations and supports available for military-connected families and students held during a staff meeting or workshop.
- 5. A school must complete **ONE (1)** of the following activities and provide evidence of completion through pictures, videos, flyers, registration sign-in, links, etc.
 - a. A resolution passed by the school board publicized the school's support for military students and families.
 - b. Host an annual military-friendly program.
 - i. 9/11
 - ii. Armed Forces Day
 - iii. Flag Day
 - iv. Memorial Day
 - v. Patriot Day
 - vi. Veterans' Day
 - c. Host a military appreciation event.
 - d. Celebration of the Month of the Military Child (April)
 - e. Form military family/committee/counseling groups to offer support (the groups must have a focus on supporting military-related learners)
 - f. Fundraiser to support military veterans and active-duty members
 - g. Other activities that show support for military-related learners

Completing the TN Purple Star School Award

The application is for an individual school building, not an entire district.

1. Read all of the documents for the TN Purple Star School Award located:
<https://www.tn.gov/sbe/committees-and-initiatives/military-interstate-children-s-compact-tennessee-state-council--mic3-/pssa.html>.
2. Go to the Google form and complete the information about the staff and their information located here: <https://forms.gle/byJgrXSVLiXBSdab7>.
 - a. This informs the MFEL that you intend to apply.
3. Choose the PD that you will complete as part of the application requirements.
 - a. Please be sure to read the TN-PSSA PD document about your choices and what is required to meet the requirements of the application.
 (<https://mic3.net/training-resources/> or <https://mcec.talentlms.com/plus/catalog>)
4. Develop or revise a dedicated webpage with support materials and information for military-connected families and students that contains the POC contact information.
5. Return to the Google Form and finish completing the application.
6. Send the Military Family Education Liaison (MFEL) the required documents, as listed in the documents in the Tennessee Purple Star School Award documents (Professional

Development Completion Certificate and other supporting documentation), to tn.purplestar@gmail.com.

7. The MFEL will notify you within seven (7) days if your application is complete or what revisions need to be made.

Timeline

1. September 15, 2026 – January 15, 2027
 - a. Applications will be available on Google Forms <https://forms.gle/byJgrXSvLiXBSdab7>
2. January 15, 2027 – All applications are due. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. The Tennessee Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (TN-MIC3) State Council Board meets in late February or early March and will vote on the potential awardees.
 - a. Once that meeting is held, the MFEL will notify all applicants as to the status of their application within three (3) days.
 - b. Award documents will follow within one (1) week.

Recognition

Schools that earn the award will receive a special Tennessee Purple Star School Award certificate to display in their building and a banner provided by the Tennessee State Board of Education.

A list of all current Purple Star Awardees will be posted on the Tennessee State Board of Education/TN-MIC3 website

<https://www.tn.gov/sbe/committees-and-initiatives/military-interstate-children-s-compact-tennessee-state-council--mic3-/pssa.html>.

Renewal

The TN-PSSA award status is valid for **two years**. After that period, the school must reapply to maintain its Purple Star School status.

Questions Regarding the Award?

Contact Deb Munis, Tennessee MIC3 Military Family Education Liaison
TN.PurpleStar@gmail.com