



2020 TENNESSEE EDUCATOR SURVEY: WHAT IT IS AND WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Since 2011, the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Education Research Alliance have partnered to produce the Tennessee Educator Survey. This annual survey provides all teachers, administrators, and certified staff the opportunity to tell us what is working and what improvements need to be made about education in Tennessee.

During these challenging times, we know that educators are on the front lines of student support in so many ways. As you continue to lead these efforts, we hope you will share your voice to help us understand the experiences and perspectives of educators across Tennessee.

Survey feedback provides critical, actionable data that influences strategies and goals at the state, district, and school levels.

Survey Participation Ensures Access to Localized Data

Schools and districts with at least a 45% participation rate receive aggregate results so informed decisions can be made at these local levels. It's vital that eligible teachers, administrators, and staff participate so their schools have this critical information in hand.

This year's survey asks your opinions on:

- School climate
- Instructional practice
- Educator evaluations
- Professional learning
- Specific state initiatives

New this year, we've also added a module on **whole child supports**, and questions about **teacher pay, instructional materials, and COVID-19 school closures**.

SURVEY QUICK FACTS

- Open to all educators from **February 25 – May 1**
- Completely **confidential** – District and school leaders will not receive individual results
- Is **voluntary** – Though we strongly encourage participation, it isn't required
- Only takes about **20 minutes** to complete
- Offers opportunities to **win grants** for your school

Survey Responses Influence Policy and Practice

The survey is open to **all teachers, administrators, and certified staff** in Tennessee.

Past surveys have resulted in changes like:

- Incentive bonuses for teachers to remain in Priority schools
- Increased teacher collaboration time and more support for instructional materials
- Opportunities for teachers to work with principals to address issues specific to their school

Last year, over **45,000 Tennessee educators (62%) completed the survey** and we hope even more will participate in 2020. Now is your chance to provide important feedback for Governor Bill Lee and Commissioner Penny Schwinn as they consider policies that will directly impact practices in classrooms across the state.



COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND HELP YOUR SCHOOL

SCHOOL-WIDE GRANTS			
	NEWCOMER AWARD	GOOD PARTICIPATION AWARD	GREAT PARTICIPATION AWARD
ELIGIBILITY	Schools that reach a 45% participation rate in 2020 but did not in 2019	Schools that reach a 65% participation rate by the end of the survey window (May 1)	Schools that reach a 90% participation rate by the end of the survey window (May 1)
AWARD OPPORTUNITY	1 \$2,500 Grant via Lottery	2 \$5,500 Grants via Lottery	3 \$5,500 Grants via Lottery

TENNESSEE EDUCATOR SURVEY BASICS	
Am I required to complete the survey?	No, the Tennessee Educator Survey is voluntary, but all educators are encouraged to participate. A variety of individual and school-level rewards are offered for survey completion.
Will my administrator see my results?	No, survey results are confidential, and your administrator will not see your individual results. District and school leaders will only receive aggregate results.
When can I take the survey?	The survey window is February 25 - May 1 .
How do I access the survey?	Educators will be sent personalized invitations via email to complete the survey. If you have trouble accessing the survey, check: https://tdoe-edsurvey.azurewebsites.net/TeacherURLs/
How long does it take?	The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, but can be saved and finished at a later time.
When can I see the results?	Results will be sent to school leaders and districts with a 45% or higher response rate in June. Results will also be available publicly on the http://educatorsurvey.tnk12.gov for schools and districts that meet the 45% response rate threshold in August.
Who do I ask for help if I am having issues accessing the survey?	Please reach out to: tned.research.alliance@vanderbilt.edu with questions regarding this year's survey.

