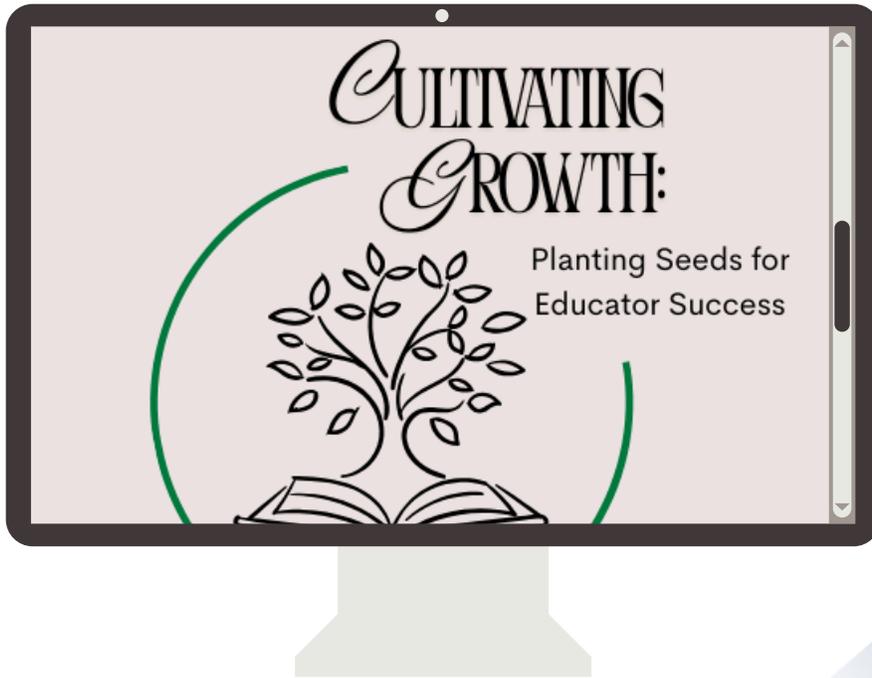




2026



February 27, 2026



Virtual Conference



Agenda

2026



9:00 am - 9:10 am | Welcome ([Main Room](#))

9:10 am - 9:20am | Advocacy Update ([Main Room](#))

9:20 am - 10:00 am | TDOE Update ([Main Room](#))

10:00 am - 10:15 am | Break

10:15 am - 11:00 am | Breakout Session

11:00 am - 11:10 am | Break

11:10 am - 12:00 pm | Job-Alike Session 1

Main Room
Link

12:00 pm - 1:00pm | Lunch

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm | Business Meeting ([Main Room](#))

1:30 pm - 2:15 pm | TN-CEEDAR Licensure Session ([Main Room](#))

2:15 pm - 2:45 pm | TSBOE Update ([Main Room](#))

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm | Break

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm | Representative/Affiliate Sessions

4:00 pm - 4:45 pm | Job-Alike Session 2



QR Codes and Links

2026



[TACTE 2026 Priorities for Advocacy](#)



[TACTE Spring 2026 Advocacy Listening Form](#)



[Business Meeting Agenda](#)



[Fall 2025 Minutes](#)



[Spring 2026 Treasurer's Report](#)



Breakout Room Assignments

Session Title	Presenters
<u>Appropriate Use of AI in Graduate Writing Instruction</u>	Dr. Daniel Bailey , Assistant Professor of Education - Austin Peay State University
<u>Cultivating AI-Ready Teachers</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Abbie McClure, Assistant Professor of Educational Studies -University of Tennessee at Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mrs. Lauren Campbell, Lecturer of Educational Studies - University of Tennessee at Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mrs. Aubrey Ricketts, Lecturer of Educational Studies - University of Tennessee at Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Miss Haley Beasley, Student - University of Tennessee at Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Miss Daisy Laxton, Student - University of Tennessee at Martin</p>
<u>Empowering Candidate Success Through Innovation: Introducing Praxis Steps and Praxis Bridge</u>	Lisa Colón Durham , Director - Educational Partnerships - ETS
<u>Enhancing Teacher Education Preparation Through Mursion Simulations: Impact on Traditional and Non-Traditional Learners</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Claire Paul, Program Coordinator, Special Education - University of Tennessee Southern</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cindy Young, Grow Your Own Program Coordinator - University of Tennessee Southern</p>
<u>Leading Learning: Instructional Design for Impact</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Laura Barnett, Coordinator of Masters in Educational Leadership Program - Austin Peay State University: College of Education</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Christi Maldonado, Coordinator of Masters in Educational Leadership Program - Austin Peay State University: College of Education</p>
<u>Small Changes, Big Impact: Online Teaching Strategies That Work</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Merinda Pratt, Assistant Professor of Education - Lincoln Memorial University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Bethany Powers, Program Director and Assistant Professor - Lincoln Memorial University</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Jane Lao, Assistant Professor - Lincoln Memorial University</p>
<u>Where Teaching Meets Innovation: Technology, AI, and Instructional Design</u>	Dr. LaToshia S. Chism , Field Experience/ Clinical Experience Supervisor / Professor of Education - Lane College



Breakout Room Abstracts

Session Title	Presenters
<p><u>Appropriate Use of AI in Graduate Writing Instruction</u></p>	<p>This presentation examines how graduate students use AI assisted writing strategies across planning, drafting, and revision. Drawing on empirical research, the session highlights patterns of use, predictors of adoption, and implications for instructional design. Emphasis is placed on supporting learning while maintaining academic integrity.</p>
<p><u>Cultivating AI-Ready Teachers</u></p>	<p>This study reveals how faculty-modeled AI use can spark powerful shifts in pre-service teachers' instructional AI literacy. Students move from casual AI use to thoughtful, ethical classroom applications. Findings highlight transformative instructional moments and offer actionable strategies for energizing AI integration across teacher preparation programs.</p>
<p><u>Empowering Candidate Success Through Innovation: Introducing Praxis Steps and Praxis Bridge</u></p>	<p>Learn how ETS is expanding flexible options to support candidates in successfully passing their licensure assessments. This session highlights Praxis Steps, which allows candidates to test one section at a time – or, if taking the full test, to retake only the Step they did not pass – while also giving EPPs greater flexibility in determining when candidates demonstrate passing performance. We'll also explore Praxis Bridge, an alternate option offering targeted learning modules for near-passing candidates. Together, these innovations reduce barriers, personalize the testing experience, and provide EPPs with granular data to strengthen instruction and candidate support while maintaining rigorous assessment standards.</p>
<p><u>Enhancing Teacher Education Preparation Through Mursion Simulations: Impact on Traditional and Non-Traditional Learners</u></p>	<p>Teacher preparation programs face increasing challenges in equipping educators with the skills needed to succeed in diverse and dynamic classrooms. Mursion simulations, an innovative virtual reality platform, offer a transformative solution by providing immersive, interactive environments where educators can practice and refine their teaching strategies. This proposal outlines how virtual reality simulations can be integrated into teacher education preparation programs to benefit both traditional learners and non-traditional learners, highlighting expected outcomes and long-term impacts.</p>
<p><u>Leading Learning: Instructional Design for Impact</u></p>	<p>In response to online learning demands and adjunct use, APSU strengthened principal preparation through intentional instructional design. A coordinated, cohort-based sequence of ten leadership courses, aligned to TILS standards and evidence-based practice, ensures quality and consistency. Sharing how course anchors and a systems approach have refined this program</p>
<p><u>Small Changes, Big Impact: Online Teaching Strategies That Work</u></p>	<p>Online teaching encompasses far more than simply assigning work through a learning management system (LMS). Educators must implement strategies that enhance course design, improve online learning, and motivate learners. This professional development will provide in-depth, research-based pedagogical knowledge regarding online teaching within higher education settings.</p>
<p><u>Where Teaching Meets Innovation: Technology, AI, and Instructional Design</u></p>	<p>This session will explore how technology and artificial intelligence can gracefully enhance instruction while keeping educators at the center of learning. Participants will examine practical, ethical, and innovative strategies that support engagement, differentiation, and instructional effectiveness across diverse learning environments.</p>



Job-Alike Session 1 Rooms

Session Title	Facilitator(s)
<u>Deans/Chairs/Directors</u>	Dr. Lisa Zagumny , lzagumny@tntech.edu - Tennessee Tech University
<u>Literacy</u>	Dr. Annie Insana , Director of Clinical Practice and Assistant Professor - Belmont University Ms. Lori Farley , Manager of EPP Literacy
<u>Licensure</u>	Ms. Katie McGrath , Education and Psychology Certification Officer - Southern Adventist University
<u>Clinical Experience</u>	Dr. Jennifer Creecy , Assistant Professor of Education - Freed-Hardeman University



Main Room
Link

TN-CEEDAR Licensure Committee Session

Session Title	Presenters
<u>Navigating Multiple Licensure Assessments: What Tennessee EPPs Need to Know</u>	Dr. Amelia Brown , Director, Office of Professional Licensure - University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Tennessee is entering a new phase in educator licensure. Pending State Board of Education approval, educator candidates will soon be able to choose between ETS/Praxis and Pearson/NES assessments to meet licensure requirements, beginning Spring 2026. This marks a significant shift from the long-standing single-assessment model and introduces new considerations for educator preparation programs (EPPs) statewide.

This general session, facilitated by TN-CEEDAR, will unpack the implications of this policy change and support EPP faculty and leadership for this transition. Presenters will provide a side-by-side overview of approved assessment options, including cost, format, length, delivery method, content focus, score reporting timelines, retake policies, and available candidate supports. The session will also explore how programs can guide candidates in making informed decisions while maintaining program coherence and supporting equitable outcomes.

Representatives from both ETS and Pearson will be invited to highlight distinguishing features of their assessments and respond to questions relevant to Tennessee EPPs. Participants will leave with practical tools, comparison resources, and implementation considerations.

This session is designed for all Tennessee EPP stakeholders and offers a timely opportunity to prepare for a major transition in the state's licensure landscape.

Representative/Affiliate Room Assignments

Session Title	Facilitator(s)
<u>East Tennessee</u>	Dr. Cynthia Chambers , East Tennessee Regional Representative - TACTE
<u>Middle Tennessee</u>	Mr. Kevin Fee , Incoming Middle Tennessee Regional Representative - TACTE
<u>West Tennessee</u>	Dr. Sandra Cooley-Nichols , West Tennessee Regional Representative - TACTE
<u>LEA</u>	Dr. David Cihak , Past-President - TACTE

Job-Alike Session 2 Rooms



Session Title	Facilitator(s)
<u>Accreditation/ Assessment</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Amelia Brown, Director, Office of Professional Licensure - University of Tennessee, Knoxville Dr. Malina Monaco, Senior Vice President for Accreditation - CAEP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This presentation will explore the CAEP accreditation process, emphasizing flexibility, strength, and balance. Attendees will learn how to adapt to shifting state and federal policies, build strong assessment systems, and maintain equilibrium across standards. Practical strategies for addressing standards will be shared.</p>
<u>Faculty</u>	Dr. Robyn Ridgley , President-Elect - TACTE
<u>Community College</u>	Ms. Stacie Bradshaw , Community College Representative - TACTE
<u>Job-Embedded</u>	Mrs. Kimily Dement , Assistant Director in the Office of Teacher Education - Tennessee Tech University
<u>Instructional Leader</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Laura Barnett, Coordinator of Masters in Educational Leadership Program - Austin Peay State University: College of Education Dr. Christi Maldonado, Coordinator of Masters in Educational Leadership Program - Austin Peay State University: College of Education</p>

Mark your Calendars for the Fall 2026 Conference!!



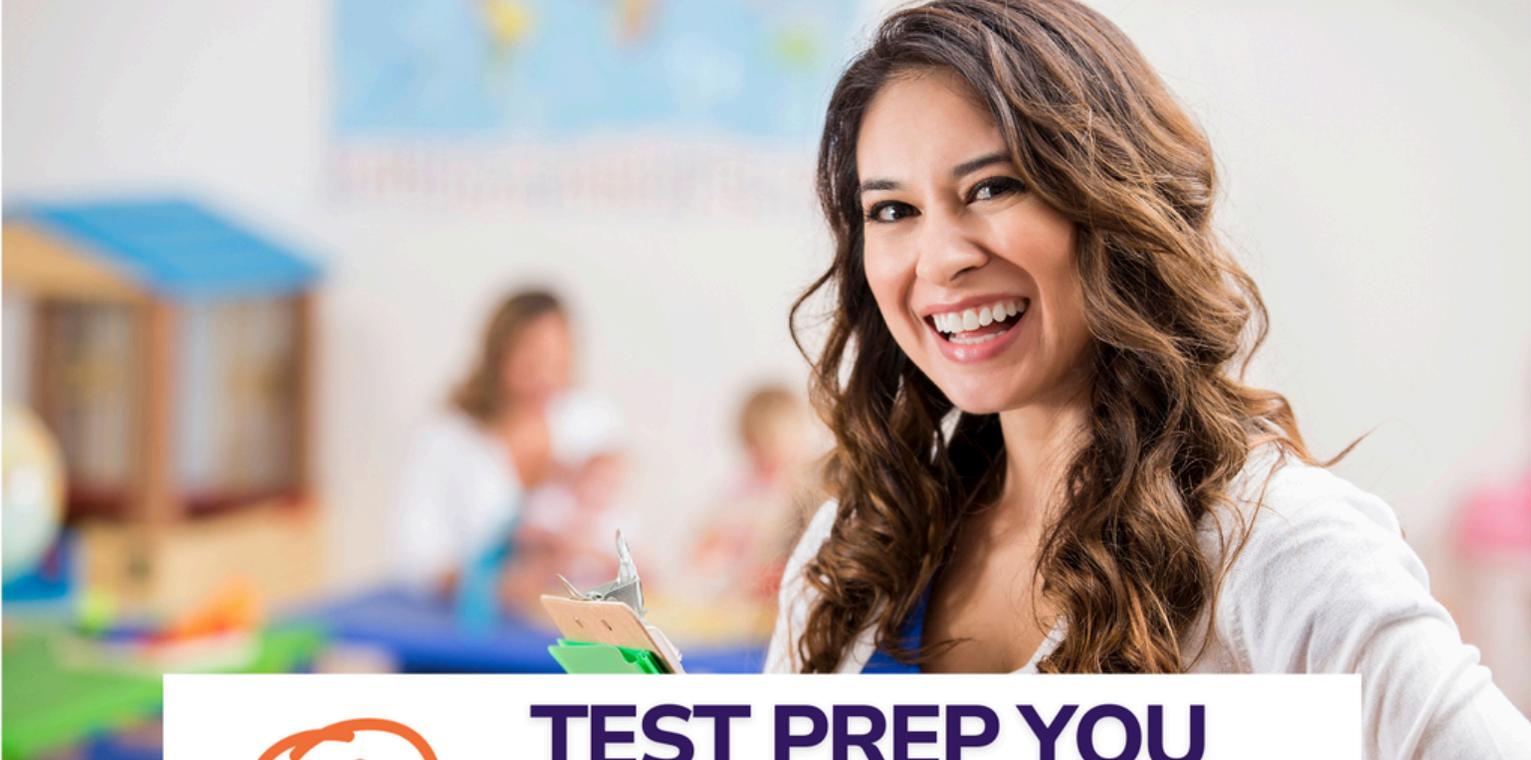
September 28 & 29, 2026
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs
Franklin, TN





**Where
learning is
at the heart
of teaching**

praxis.ets.org



TEST PREP YOU CAN COUNT ON

Feel confident your students will pass their certification exams.



Money-Back Guaranteed Test-Prep



Track students' study progress



Inform program improvement from valuable insights

Two Ways to Partner:



Programs pay as low as \$15/credit

-OR-



Students get a 50% discount

THE MORE YOU USE OUR TOOLS, THE MORE YOUR CANDIDATES PASS!

240's Money-Back Guarantee

If a student scores a 90% or higher on a practice test, but fails the real exam, we'll refund the cost!



partnerships@240tutoring.com



www.240tutoring.com

Presenting Sponsors



Study.com



Pearson

SCORE



Supporting Sponsors

AAQEP

Association for **Advancing Quality** in Educator Preparation

CAEP



**DEANS
FOR
IMPACT**

NIET

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING



Nimble | Connect



TECA

TENNESSEE **EDUCATORS** of **COLOR** ALLIANCE

TICUA

TENNESSEE INDEPENDENT COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION