



## T-TESS Tips – September 2017

### **Timely Resources for T-TESS**

1. Video Training Module: [Pre-Conferences](#)
2. [Complete Resource List](#)

### **New Resource**

Now available on the Teach For Texas site is an index, [Complete Resource List](#), of all the T-TESS resources available for teachers, appraisers, and district staff. While login is still required to access certain materials, having the complete list of resources available in one place can be helpful when searching for a specific resource or to get an overview of the variety of resources available related to a specific topic.

### **Fall Reminders**

With the school-year recently underway for most districts, and the initial rush hopefully settling into a more regular routine, now is an excellent time to revisit key ideas that guide the T-TESS process.

- T-TESS is rooted in a growth mindset which is captured by the oft-heard T-TESS phrase “It’s okay to be where you are; it’s not okay to stay there.”
- Closely related is the idea that the primary purpose of appraisal is to help us better understand what’s working, what’s not working, and what we can do to improve moving forward. As educators become more aware of their instructional practice, the self-reflection process embedded in T-TESS will also increase understanding about why something is or isn’t working and how it can be strengthened.

Whether your district is still early in their journey with T-TESS or not, revisiting these key ideas helps to ensure that T-TESS stays anchored as a collaborative and reflective system aimed at encouraging professional growth.

**Please take advantage of your ESCs for support as you work through implementation. You can also contact Linda Johnson at [linda.johnson@tea.texas.gov](mailto:linda.johnson@tea.texas.gov) to talk through any part of the T-TESS process.**