



BEST **FOR**
ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

Annual Prayer Certification

Henry LaFollette | East ESEA Oversight Coordinator
Division of Federal Programs and Oversight | Aug. 2020



BEST FOR
ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL
HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY
EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE
THEY LIVE

WHOLE CHILD

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE
ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC
NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH
FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION
AND BE THE TOP STATE TO
BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER
AND LEADER

TN

Department of
Education



Agenda

- Overview of the Prayer Certification
- Walkthrough of the Prayer Certification Application in ePlan
- Timeline Review
- Technical Assistance

Overview of the Prayer Certification



Purpose

- ESEA § 8524(b) requires that, as a condition of receiving ESEA funds, an LEA must certify in writing to its SEA that **it has no policy that prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in public schools.**



Prayer Certification Application Supplement



Rationale for New Prayer Certification Application Supplement

- The new Prayer Certification Application Supplement is a simplified process for LEAs with no required uploads.
- The department will be able to access data quickly for reporting purposes to the U.S. Department of Education. (ED)



How to Navigate the Platform



Application Supplement in ePlan: FY21 Prayer Certification

- To navigate to the Prayer Certification supplement from the ePlan homepage, hover your mouse over the **Funding** tab on the left menu bar, and select **Application Supplements**.
- Select the desired fiscal year (**2021**) in the upper left corner of the screen.
- The LEA user with the **LEA Authorized Representative** role may click **Draft Started**.

ePlan Home	ePlan Home
Administer	
Search	
Reports	
Inbox	Announcements
Planning	
Funding	Funding Applications
Reimbursement Requests	Budget Summary
LEA Document Library	Budget Download

Funding Applications

2020 ▾

All Active Applications ▾

Entitlement Funding Application

CARES Act

Sections

Application Status: Not Started

Change Status To: Draft Started

Application Supplement in ePlan: FY21 Prayer Certification

- Access each individual page of the **Prayer Certification** from the **Sections Page**.
- Select the **Prayer Certification** page to complete the questions

Status:	Draft Started
Change Status To:	Submitted
Description (View Sections Only View All Pages)	
All	
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Log
	History Log
	Create Comment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer Certification
	Prayer Certification
All	

Description (View Sections Only View All Pages)	
All	
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Log
	History Log
	Create Comment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer Certification
	Prayer Certification
All	

Application Supplement in ePlan: FY21 Prayer Certification

* As a condition of receiving funds under ESEA, Title VII, Part F, Subpart 2 Section 9524 concerning protected prayer in public schools, each Local Education Agency (LEA) must certify in writing to the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) that no policy of the LEA prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in public elementary and secondary schools.

- ☒ No district policy prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in public elementary and secondary schools as set forth in the guidance related to ESSA, Title VII, Part F, Subpart 2 Section 9524.
- ☐ A district policy prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in public elementary and secondary schools as set forth in the guidance related to ESSA, Title VII, Part F, Subpart 2 Section 9524.

Application Supplement in ePlan: FY21 Prayer Certification

* Please indicate in the box below if your district has received complaints related to constitutionally protected prayer.

No

If Yes, please provide a description of what investigation or enforcement action has been initiated and the status of the investigation or action.

Check Spelling

0 of 8000 characters

Application Supplement in ePlan: FY21 Prayer Certification

- Once the ***LEA Authorized Representative*** has completed the questions, Change the status on the ***Sections*** page to ***Submitted***.

Status: **Revision Started**

Change Status To: Submitted

Prayer Certification Platform Walkthrough



Resources and Technical Assistance



Timeline

- **Aug. 5:** New application supplement opens in ePlan
- **Oct. 1:** FY21 Prayer Certification due in ePlan

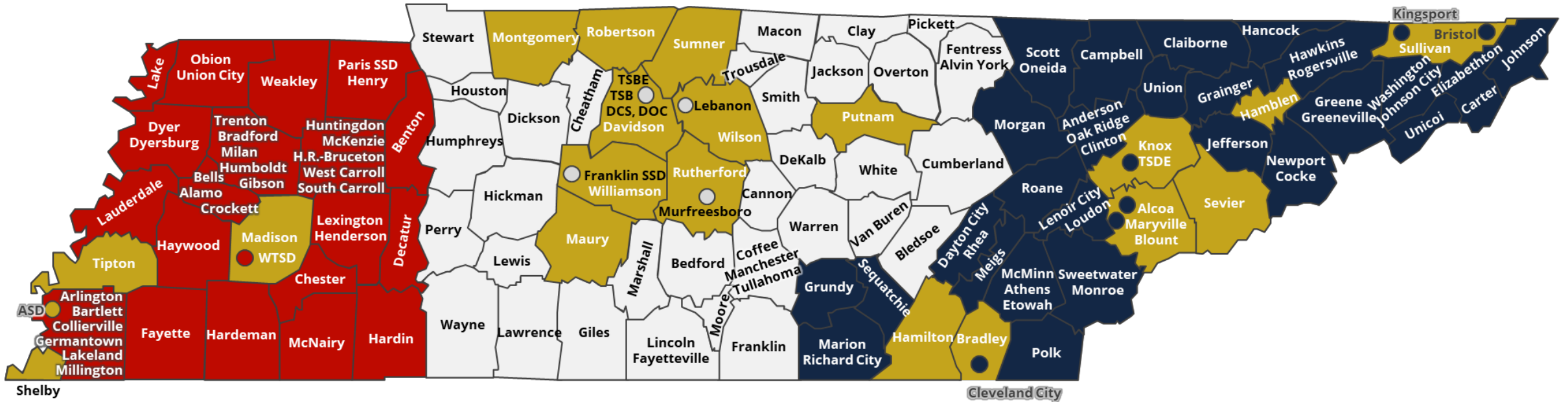


Resources

- Several helpful resources are available in *ePlan > TDOE Resources > Prayer Certification*.
- Resources include:
 - Slide deck
 - Recorded webinar
 - TDOE guidance document
 - ED guidance document



FPO Divisional Coordinator Map



West

ESEA: Lynn Dotson
IDEA: Michelle Mansfield

Middle

ESEA: Joann Runion
IDEA: John Stults

East

ESEA: Henry LaFollette
IDEA: Melanie Lamberson

20 Districts with Largest Enrollment

ESEA: Heather Farley
IDEA: Trudy Hughes

Contact information

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