PURPLE STAR CAMPUS DESIGNATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Purple Star Campus Designation (PSCD) recognizes Texas district and open-enrollment school campuses that show their support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. Below are answers to common questions TEA receives during the application period to support local education agencies (LEAs) as they work on their Purple Star applications.

For more information on the application process, established criteria, and timeline, please visit **Texas Education Agency Purple Star Campus Designation website**. The current year's application window is posted.

Q1: Does the campus-based military liaison have to be an employee of the local school district?

A1: Yes. All campus-based military liaisons need to be an employee of the LEA. See the **Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 61, §61.1063**.

Q2: Is it important to consult with my district webmaster to establish and regularly update the campus webpage for military families?

A2: Yes. Collaborating with the district webmaster ensures a systematic process for webpage maintenance, guaranteeing regular updates to the campus webpage for military families. PSCD campuses bear the responsibility of creating, sustaining, and tailoring information on the webpage for military families. Linking individual campus webpages to district-level webpages ensures coherence, accessibility, consistency, and accuracy in messaging across all webpages, benefiting both the PSCD and military-connected families.

Q3: When can I expect to know if our application has been approved to earn the Purple Star Campus Designation and what will I receive from TEA?

A3: The Purple Star Campus Designation is awarded annually in August-September. An announcement notification letter from the commissioner of the TEA is shared with the campus principal and superintendent. TEA also distributes a To the Administrator Addressed (TAA) letter with a list of the campuses that earned the designation. Additionally, the campus will be acknowledged as a Purple Star campus in the searchable **TXSchools.gov** campus profile, further highlighting their commitment to supporting military-connected students and families.

Q4: What TEA Purple Star Campus resources are available to assist with completing my campus application?

A4: Resources including the application preview, self-assessment rubric, previously recorded application training videos, and copies of the presentation are available on **TEA's Purple Star Campus Designation website**. TEA released a free, comprehensive TEA Learn Purple Star Rise Course in January 2025 with numerous modules, tools, and training resources to support LEAs with earning and implementing the Purple Star Campus Designation.

Purple Star Campus Designation Frequently Asked Questions (cont'd)

Q5: How can the campus-based military liaison upload multiple photos or documents in the application?

A5: The Purple Star Campus Designation Application system requires the upload of evidence in the form of a PDF. Evidence for each required criteria will need to be compiled into one PDF file for a single upload. Campuses may choose to combine evidence in any manner that best fits their need and convert to PDF. Please note that there is a file size limit for each upload. Campus-based liaisons are strongly encouraged to consult local district officials and LEA IT support for properly submitting evidence documents and artifacts.

Q6: Our campus has a student-led transitional program; however, the students did not host a newcomer social event this past school year. Can our campus still apply to earn the designation?

A6: Yes. Your campus can still apply to earn the designation. In the application, please include evidence of your campus transition activities and events. Please be sure your written narrative provides a thorough explanation of the evidence you have uploaded for this part of the application.

Q7: Does the campus-based military liaison have to be the person who delivers campus staff professional development, or can the campus-based military liaison partner with other organizations to deliver professional development to meet the criterion?

A7: No. The campus-based military liaison is responsible for coordinating professional development opportunities for campus staff members on issues related to military-connected students. The campus-based military liaison can choose to offer professional development opportunities themselves or use other partner organizations or other entities to meet this criterion.

Q8: Is it acceptable to provide a list of professional development training for the most current school year as proof of meeting the criterion?

A8: Yes. It is acceptable to provide a list of dates for campus professional development training by topic, with presenter information as proof for meeting the criterion for the most current school year. The Texas Administrative Code §61.1063 provides a list of suggested (but not exhaustive) topics related to the military that would be appropriate for staff professional development:

(i) military culture

(ii) deployments and family separations

(iii) the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

(iv) the Texas Student Data Systems Public Education Information Management System military student identifier

(v) mitigating the effects of high mobility

(vi) issues that address the physical and mental effects of military service

(vii) supporting students connected to veterans

(viii) supporting students with a parent or guardian in the national guard or reserve

(ix) supporting students with a parent or guardian who has fallen in the line of duty

Q9: Do the professional development training courses have to meet a minimum time requirement?

A9: No. The minimum amount of time required for professional development training is not specified in statute or rule. It is recommended that campuses provide professional development opportunities that ensure proper training, awareness, and understanding of the content for an adult learner.

Q10: Who does the campus-based military liaison need to collaborate with to ensure military-connected students are properly identified and coded to satisfy the TEA Purple Star Campus criteria?

A10: The campus-based military liaison needs to collaborate with the school registrar, data processor, and/or the school counselor to ensure military-connected students are properly identified and coded through the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System. See the PEIMS Military-Connected Student Code (C197) for details.

Q11: If the campus-based military liaison does not have direct access to the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System (TSDS PEIMS) what should they do?

A11: The campus-based military liaison is encouraged to work collaboratively with the campus TSDS PEIMS coordinator, school counselor, data processor, registrar, or other appropriate staff to ensure all new and currently enrolled students are properly identified and coded through TSDS PEIMS with the appropriate PEIMS Military-Connected Student Code (C197). Establishing a collaborative relationship between the campus military liaison and data support staff is essential to ensuring proper support for students and implementation of the program.

Q12: Should the PSCD application be completed in the online Qualtrics survey in the same setting?

A12: Yes. Once you begin the application, plan to submit all your responses in one setting, by copying and pasting the prewritten responses from a Word document into the Qualtrics application. If the applicant closes their web browser without finishing the application survey and uses the same computer and browser to restart the survey, the survey will begin at the question they completed. Although the Qualtrics application is saved, when it is in process, there can be difficulty navigating back to the application unless using the same computer and web-browser.

Q13: Will data be saved if I do not finish completing the survey application in one setting?

A13: Yes. Data will be saved for up to one (1) week. TEA recommends having all items together before beginning the application process.