

Distinguished Teacher Review

2021 – 2022 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Distinguished Teacher Review?

The Distinguished Teacher Review (DTR) is a component of the Teacher Excellence Initiative. The aim of DTR is to retain and reward our best teachers, inspire other teachers to grow, and raise the bar for effective teaching.

What is the purpose of the DTR Application?

The purpose of the DTR Application is to retain and reward teachers for the many roles they hold within and beyond the classroom. The application emphasizes three key levers of impact: leadership, lifelong learning, and contributions the profession.

Eligibility

What is the 2021– 2022 DTR Eligibility Criteria?

Round 1	Round 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in at least 3rd year of service • Earn a minimum score of 80 on their 2020-21 summative appraisal • Earn at least half of available points on their 2020-21 SLO; and, • Receive a 2020-21 TEI Evaluation score within top 30% of scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in at least 3rd year of service • Earn a minimum score of 80 on their 2021-22 summative appraisal. (Jan. 21, 2022) • In order to remain eligible, Round 2 teachers must also earn at least 50% of possible combined points at end of year for Student Achievement and Student Experience.

How do I know if I must re-apply for DTR in Round 1 this year?

1. Access your current 2020-2021 TEI Scorecard in [My Records](#).
2. Review DTR footnotes and next steps below:

Footnote	Application Required?
DTR points from two years ago have been carried over two times and are expired. If eligible for DTR, the teacher must submit a DTR Application in the current year to again earn DTR points.	Yes. This teacher’s last application was in 2017-18 and the teacher MUST submit a DTR application during the Round 1 window in October 2021.
DTR application was submitted in 2019-20 and resulting DTR points were first used in the 2020-21 evaluation score.	No. The teacher may take no action and automatically carry over DTR points from the 2020-21 TEI Scorecard.
DTR points have been carried over one time; the maximum is two times.	No. The teacher may take no action and automatically carry over points from the 2018-19 TEI Scorecard.
No DTR Footnotes.	No. The teacher may take no action and automatically carry over points from the 2020-21 TEI Scorecard.

If I meet DTR eligibility criteria, am I guaranteed a Distinguished Effectiveness Level?

No. Teachers who undergo the Distinguished Teacher Review must also earn an average evaluation score within or beyond the Proficient II Effectiveness Level range to earn a Distinguished Effectiveness Level.

Do I have to go through the Distinguished Teacher Review to earn a Distinguished Effectiveness Level?

Newly eligible teachers (i.e. DTR-eligible teachers with an Effectiveness Level below Proficient II) must undergo the Distinguished Teacher Review to receive an Effectiveness Level of Proficient II or higher. Teachers currently holding a Distinguished Effectiveness Level (Proficient II or higher) and DTR points do not need to submit a DTR Application to advance an Effectiveness Level.

If I currently hold a Distinguished Effectiveness Level, do I need to go through the Distinguished Teacher Review to remain a Distinguished teacher?

No. For Distinguished teachers who maintain DTR eligibility, DTR points will carryover for two years. Note: teachers' Effectiveness Levels will not decrease unless they earn a lower Evaluation Rating for four consecutive years.

Scoring

How many points are available to teachers through the DTR Application?

Starting in the 2018-2019 school year, teachers can earn up to 20 points on their DTR Application. Specifically, teachers may earn up to 8 points by demonstrating examples of their Leadership and up to 6 points by demonstrating examples of their Lifelong Learning and Contributions to the Profession, respectively.

How is my DTR Application score determined?

The DTR Application is scored by trained, TEI and DTR Certified, review teams. Each experience is individually scored using the DTR Rubric and assigned a performance level. Applicants are given the highest performance level based on individually scored experiences within each domain. Therefore, it is in an applicant's best interest to provide the strongest experiences within each domain. Reminder, experiences are limited to the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, including the summers of 2019, 2020 and 2021. Teachers will receive the points earned from the review of their application on their DTR Snapshot by September 2022.

If I currently hold a Distinguished Effectiveness Level, will my DTR points carryover?

Yes. For teachers who maintain DTR eligibility, DTR points will carryover for two years only. After DTR points have been applied to teachers' Scorecards for three consecutive years, teachers must undergo DTR again to earn DTR points.

If I am eligible to use carryover points and elect to submit a DTR Application early, will I receive the better of the two scores?

No. Teachers will receive DTR points based on his or her most recent DTR Application.

I am currently DTR-eligible with points available for carryover. Will I need to re-apply in 2021-2022?

Teachers may continue to carryover points up to three times before re-applying while eligibility is maintained. See the table below:

Application Year	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
2017-2018	Applied (1)	Optional Carryover (2)	Optional Carryover (3)		Application Required			
2018-2019		Applied (1)	Optional Carryover (2)		Optional Carryover (3)	Application Required		
2019-2020			Applied (1)		Optional Carryover (2)	Optional Carryover (3)	Application Required	
2020-2021				Applied (1)	Optional Carryover (2)	Optional Carryover (3)	Application Required	
2021-2022					Applied (1)	Optional Carryover (2)	Optional Carryover (3)	Application Required

Application

What types of experiences should I include in the Leadership domain of the DTR Application?

In the Leadership domain, a Distinguished Teacher serves as a role model and leader for peers across the PK- 12 campus in formal and informal settings, proactively setting high standards and demonstrating commitment that accelerates the goals of the school. Examples may include mentoring new teachers, coordinating new teacher support at the campus, or demonstrating initiative in starting a new campus system. Experiences are differentiated across performance levels based on the strength of the outcome. Reminder, experiences are limited to the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, including the summers of 2019, 2020 and 2021. For more information about the Leadership domain, view the Resources page on the TEI website or attend a DTR Application Workshop.

What types of experiences should I include in the Lifelong Learning domain of the DTR Application?

In the Lifelong Learning domain, a Distinguished Teacher initiates or seeks out multiple learning opportunities and applies learning successfully to improve individual and PK - 12 campus practice, showing commitment to team innovation and growth. Examples may include professional learning experiences such as personal research, formal training, or degree programs. Experiences are differentiated across performance levels based on the outcomes resulting from implemented new learning. Reminder, experiences are limited to the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, including the summers of 2019, 2020 and 2021. For more information about the Lifelong Learning domain, view the Resources page on the TEI website or attend a DTR Application Workshop.