

TEAM Newsletter

October 2026



Welcome Back, Colleagues!

The 2026–27 school year is officially underway, and with it comes an important transition year for TEAM. As districts, beginning teachers, and mentors begin using elements of the redesigned model, we are continuing to learn from implementation, gather feedback, and refine resources in preparation for the **official launch of TEAM 2.0 in September 2027.**

In this edition, you'll find updates and resources to support the transition year, including information about the two available pathways, mentor training opportunities, TEAM Coordinating Committee plans, certification, and continued supports for districts and educators.

We look forward to working alongside you throughout this year of learning and transition



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Transition Year Updates

The 2026–27 school year is a transition year, not the official rollout of TEAM 2.0. This year provides districts, beginning teachers, and mentors with an opportunity to begin using elements of the redesigned model while continuing to meet current TEAM requirements. We are also using this transition year to gather feedback, learn from implementation, and refine the model and resources in preparation for the official launch of TEAM 2.0 on September 1, 2027.

As the transition year gets underway, two pathways are available to beginning teachers participating in TEAM this year. Beginning teachers may either continue with the traditional TEAM module process, including the paper/project requirements, or participate through the new Mentor Engagement Log pathway.

Regardless of the pathway selected, 10 contact hours of mentoring and professional learning are still required for each module. To support districts, beginning teachers, and mentors, we have added resources and guidance to the TEAM website, including information about the two pathways and tools to support implementation.

We will continue providing guidance, resources, and updates throughout the 2026–27 transition year to support districts as they prepare for the official launch of TEAM 2.0 in fall 2027.

Resources

Updated program guides for Pathway A

- [Mentor Guide 2026-2027](#)
- [Administrator Guide \(2026-2027\)](#)
- [District Facilitator Guide \(2026-2027\)](#)
- [Beginning Teacher \(BT\) Program Guide 2026-27](#)

Transition year guidance documents for Pathway B

- [District Facilitator and Mentor Transition Year Guidance 2026-2027](#)
- [Mentor Transition Year Checklist 2026-2027](#)
- [Mentor Guiding Questions 2026-2027](#)
- [Updated Sample PGAP and Mentor Engagement Log](#)

Mentor Training

Stay up to date on your TEAM Mentor eligibility by completing 3 required PLUs over your three-year eligibility period. Please see the list on the left of new PLUs now available online! We are so pleased to be offering these new modules that will bolster your professional development with relevant insights. Thank you to our RESC Alliance colleagues for their support in developing these materials.

If your eligibility expired, or if you know of an educator interested in becoming a TEAM mentor, [please register for an Initial Support Teacher \(IST\) training session.](#)

New Mentor PLUs:

- Supporting Early Educators- Curriculum Development Backwards Design
- A Mentor's Guide for Unpacking the CCT
- Coaching Conversations Using the CCT
- Supporting your novice through writing a standards-based IEP

As we are preparing for the launch of TEAM 2.0, we are looking ahead to the future of Initial Support Teacher (IST) training. The IST Train-the-Trainer (TOT) opportunity will support the development of a network of educators who can help expand access to state-approved mentor training across Connecticut.

More information about the IST TOT process, including training details and next steps, will be shared in our January edition. Stay tuned!

TEAM Coordinating Committee and Three-Year Plans



To accommodate for the changes being made to TEAM during this transition year prior to the rollout of TEAM 2.0 in the 2027-2028 school year, the Talent Office has officially extended the deadline for TCC 3-Year Plans to June 30, 2027.

As the state transitions to TEAM 2.0 in Fall 2027, districts are encouraged to consider how the goals of its professional development programs overlap. In doing so, they could identify ways for TCCs and PDECs to collaborate, including having crossover membership to support the creation of more seamless systems for educators across their careers.

District Facilitator Meetings



Please be sure to mark your calendars for our Spring District Facilitator Meeting, currently scheduled for March 18th, 2027.

Certification



As of July 1, 2025, Provisional Educator Certifications are no longer issued or renewed, and all Initial Educator Certifications are valid for ten years. Once an educator serves for 50 school months under the Initial Educator Certification in Connecticut, completes TEAM and a master's degree, they will be eligible to apply to advance their certification to the professional level.

[For more information, be sure to save and check the Certification Alerts page.](#)

District and Mentor Spotlights



[To celebrate the amazing dedication of our mentors across Connecticut, we invite you to complete the form that recognizes mentors and shares your appreciation!](#)

[We also invite you to complete the form highlighting the exceptional work being done by all participants in TEAM.](#)

Submissions may be published in a future newsletter!

Continued Partnership with the RESC Alliance



The CSDE continues to partner with the RESC Alliance in supporting TEAM during the 2026–27 transition year. RESC staff will continue to support TEAM through mentor professional learning and other program supports. As the state transitions to the redesigned TEAM model, CSDE is working with the RESC Alliance to ensure continuity of support for districts, mentors, and beginning teachers throughout the transition year.

RESC Contacts

RESCs may offer customized technical assistance and in-district support. Please be aware that the RESCs may charge a fee for these services. Please contact your local RESC for additional information.

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Technical Support



Questions? We are here to help!

Please follow these steps:

- Read this newsletter thoroughly
- Ask your mentor and/or DF
- Still unsure? Send your inquiries to ctteam@ct.gov.

Be sure to include your Educator Identification Number (EIN) so we can assist you efficiently.

Emails will be returned in the order they are received.



The Connecticut State Department of Education is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.



ACADEMY FOR TEACHER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
AT COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The **Academy of Teacher Leadership** focuses on current teacher leaders who want to tackle a specific problem of practice, support the implementation of a new initiative, or launch a project in the school building. It is especially helpful for a pair of teachers from the same school to enroll together so they can collaborate on school-specific initiatives in real time. The ATL Program is **designed** as a **one-year, cohort-style** program. Throughout the year, participants come together for 5 full-day seminars.

We are seeking **any outstanding teacher** in your building who have:

- exceptional teaching ability
- demonstrated capacity to serve as a teacher leader
- three or more years of teaching experience
- strong collaborative/interpersonal skills
- the respect of their colleagues

A peak into our program topics:

- Assessing their Readiness for Teacher Leadership
- Leveraging Generational Diversity in the Workspace
- Adult Learning Theory
- Change: Technical and Adaptive
- Facilitating Coaching Conversations
- Goal Setting and Action Planning

2026-2027 Dates

All Sessions are from 9:00am – 2:30pm

October 15, November 16, December 15, February 25 and April 7

Program Fees

\$450/person for CES Districts

\$750/person for Non-CES Districts

[Register for the Sessions »](#)

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