

TESS Instructional Specialist Rubric

DOMAIN 1: PLANNING AND PREPARATION				
	<i>Ineffective</i>	<i>Progressing</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Highly Effective</i>
1a: Demonstrates understanding of the underlying research, theories, knowledge, and skills of the discipline	Specialist demonstrates little or no understanding of the critical concepts and content of the discipline.	Specialist demonstrates limited understanding of the critical concepts and content of the discipline and of the range of proven strategies to effectively provide the instructional support services.	Specialist demonstrates solid understanding of the critical concepts and content of the discipline and of a range of research-based practices to provide the instructional support services.	Specialist demonstrates extensive understanding of the critical concepts and content of the discipline and of an extensive range of research-based practices and strategies to provide the instructional support services.
1b: Identifies the instructional improvement needs of the teachers served	Specialist has little to no knowledge of the instructional improvement needs of the teachers served.	Specialist has limited knowledge of the teachers' instructional improvement needs.	Specialist knows the instructional improvement needs of the teachers served.	Specialist proactively seeks additional knowledge about each teacher's instructional improvement needs to understand how to best support teachers in implementing the school's programs.
1c: Identifies clear, specific, and appropriate goals for the instructional support program	Specialist's goals are either inappropriate or unclear. The goals do not align with the teachers' needs.	Specialist's goals are partially defined and/or minimally aligned with teachers' needs for instructional support.	Specialist's goals are clear, specific, and appropriate for the needs of the teachers and the school program. Teachers accept and endorse the goals.	Specialist's goals have been designed in collaboration with teachers and school leaders, and are tightly aligned with both teachers' instructional needs and the school program
1d: Identifies resources for the instructional support program that are available within and outside the school/district.	Specialist does not identify resources to support the instructional support program.	Specialist has limited knowledge of resources within the school and district that can be used to improve teachers' instructional skills.	Specialist can readily identify appropriate human and material resources within the school and district or beyond, that can help teachers build their instructional capacity.	Specialist proactively seeks a wide range of resources from multiple sources to build the instructional capacity of the teachers. Teachers share their knowledge of external resources with the Specialist.

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DOMAIN 1: PLANNING AND PREPARATION (cont'd)

<p><i>1e: Plans a coherent program of instructional support fully integrated with the school program</i></p>	<p>Specialist's instructional support program is either not planned or planned independently of the school program and the capacity of the faculty to implement the school program.</p> <p>The planned instructional support program is based on a series of disconnected professional learning "events" that lacks</p>	<p>The planned instructional support program is integrated with the school program in limited ways.</p> <p>The planned instructional support program reflects a limited degree of coherence.</p>	<p>The planned instructional support program is fully integrated with the school program.</p> <p>The planned instructional support program offers an organized and coherent approach to instructional improvement.</p>	<p>The planned instructional support program is fully integrated with the school program and designed to drive its goals.</p> <p>The planned instructional support program is coherent and helps bring additional coherence to the school program.</p>
<p><i>1f: Develops a plan and process for the ongoing assessment and improvement of the instructional support program</i></p>	<p>There is no evidence of a plan or process to assess the efficacy of the instructional support program to guide program improvements.</p>	<p>Specialist has developed a basic plan and process to assess the instructional support program, but has not indicated how the data will be used to inform improvements.</p>	<p>Specialist has developed a coherent plan and process to measure both the implementation of the instructional support program and its impact, relative to the stated goals. Evidence of success is clearly stated.</p> <p>Assessment data is used to guide program improvement.</p>	<p>Specialist has developed a sophisticated plan for assessing the implementation and impact of the instructional support program, relative to the stated goals. Multiple forms of evidence of success, including assessments by the teachers, are clearly defined.</p> <p>Assessment data is used to guide practice-focused discussions among stakeholders that will inform program improvement.</p>

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DOMAIN 2: ENVIRONMENT

	<i>Ineffective</i>	<i>Progressing</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Highly Effective</i>
2a: Creates a respectful and emotionally safe culture that promotes collaboration	Specialist has not created an environment where teachers feel safe asking for assistance. There is no evidence of collaboration in addressing problems of practice.	Many teachers participate in professional learning initiated by the Specialist, but there is limited evidence of collaboration in designing the professional learning or in setting goals for improved instruction. Teachers indicate that they feel relatively safe participating in the professional learning developed by the Specialist.	Most teachers participate in professional learning initiated by the Specialist. Some teachers initiate contacts with the Specialist to seek support for collaborative efforts to improve instructional practices. Teachers indicate that the instructional improvement efforts are respectful and responsive.	Teachers work collaboratively with the Specialist to co-develop and participate in improvement-focused professional learning. Teachers indicate that their contributions are respected and valued, promoting a culture of collaboration.
2b: Promotes a culture of continuous instructional improvement	Specialist does not communicate that instructional improvement is a continuous process, instead implying that it is a compliance- driven event.	Specialist's attempts to build a culture of continuous improvement are mixed. Some teachers acknowledge the importance of continuous improvement and accept support from the Specialist.	Specialist creates a culture in which continuous improvement is acknowledged as critical work for all staff. Teachers feel comfortable in reaching out for support in their instructional improvement	Teachers initiate instructional improvement efforts, working collaboratively with the Specialist to define the goals, processes, and methods to measure the implementation and impact of the initiatives.
2c: Develops processes and procedures for teachers to participate in support activities	No processes or procedures are in place. Teachers do not know how to access the services provided by the Specialist.	Teachers have a limited understanding of how to access services offered by the Specialist. Processes and procedures lack the specificity necessary to guide teachers.	Clear processes and procedures are in place to guide teachers in understanding how to access each of the services provided by the Specialist. Teachers understand the procedures and use them to access services.	Clear processes and procedures to access the range of services provided are in place and well communicated. The essential stakeholders participated in developing the procedures and promote their use among the teachers.
2d: Establishes clearly defined norms for professional conduct	Norms for professional conduct have not been defined. Adult interactions can be described as unproductive and often disrespectful.	Specialist makes limited attempts to establish norms for adult interactions. Adult interactions are inconsistently productive and respectful.	Clear norms for guiding professional conduct have been established and promoted within the school. The norms frame productive and respectful interactions among the adults.	Teachers observe the established norms for professional conduct, holding themselves and each other accountable for honoring the norms.

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DOMAIN 3: DELIVERY OF SERVICE

	<i>Ineffective</i>	<i>Progressing</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Highly Effective</i>
3a: Collaborates with teachers to design rigorous, standards-based classroom instruction	Specialist does not collaborate with teachers in designing classroom instruction.	Specialist provides limited support to teachers in designing classroom instruction. The support is often more cooperative than collaborative.	Specialist promotes and engages in collaborative efforts to work with teachers to design standards-based classroom instruction	Teachers take the initiative to work with the Specialist to design classroom instruction that is standards-based, rigorous, and engaging.
3b: Addresses the instructional improvement needs of the teachers served	The instructional improvement support delivered by the Specialist is of poor quality and does not address the needs of the teachers served.	The instructional improvement support designed and delivered by the Specialist is of mixed quality, addressing the needs of a limited number of the teachers served.	The instructional improvement support designed and delivered by the Specialist is of high quality and appropriately addresses the needs of the teachers served.	The Specialist offers teachers an opportunity to inform the workshops and modeling services in order to ensure a tight alignment with their instructional improvement needs.
3c: Engages teachers in learning new instructional strategies and practices	Specialist is not successful in promoting professional learning. Teachers do not take part in professional learning.	Specialist has limited success in promoting opportunities for professional learning. Some teachers engage in the professional learning provided.	Specialist successfully engages teachers in learning new instructional strategies and practices. Teachers participate in the professional learning.	Specialist and teachers collaborate on identifying topics for professional learning about instructional strategies and practices. Teachers are highly motivated participants in ongoing professional learning.
3d: Provides relevant and timely feedback to teachers	There is little or no feedback given to teachers regarding their professional growth. Teachers do not appear to be aware of their professional learning goals and do not engage in self-assessment.	Teachers are aware of their learning goals, but feedback to teachers is minimal and inconsistent	Specialist provides timely and consistent feedback to teachers based on clearly communicated goals for professional growth.	Specialist integrates multiple types of evidence, including teacher's self-assessments, to provide timely and consistent feedback to teachers regarding their professional growth. Specialist works with teachers to use the feedback to update
3e: Provides responsive professional support	Specialist offers a rigid approach to professional support that is followed regardless of impact or appropriateness.	Specialist sometimes modifies plans/approaches in response to teacher's requests or evident needs.	Specialist provides responsive services by adapting and adjusting plans for services as teacher needs and interests change.	Specialist solicits input from key stakeholders to ensure the professional support is appropriate and responsive to the existing and emerging interests and needs of teachers. Services are adapted as needed to ensure responsiveness.

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DOMAIN 4: PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES				
	<i>Ineffective</i>	<i>Progressing</i>	<i>Effective</i>	<i>Highly Effective</i>
4a: Reviews and reflects on practice to inform improvement	Specialists either do not review the counseling practice or provides inaccurate recommendations for improvement.	Specialist's reflections are vague, informing recommendations for improvement that are too global to be actionable.	Specialist accurately reflects on the implementation and the impact of the instructional improvement services, providing concrete and specific examples of challenges and successes. Recommendations for improvement are specific and	Specialist's reflections are both specific and perceptive, framed by clear evidence for the recommendations provided. Specialist's professional judgment and expertise help shape specific recommendations for alternative approaches to meeting the instructional improvement goals.
4b: Follows established procedures for developing and submitting accurate and timely records, budgets, and reports	Specialist does not follow procedures that have been established for developing and submitting required documents. Required documents are usually inaccurate and late.	Specialist has limited success in following established procedures to prepare accurate budgets, service records, and reports. Required documents are often submitted late.	Specialist follows established procedures to guide the development of budgets, service records, and reports. Required documents are accurate and submitted on time.	Specialist follows and informs the improvement of established procedures for developing and submitting required reports. Budgets support improvement by reflecting diagnosed needs. Required documents are accurate, submitted on time, and generally viewed as exemplars to guide the work of others.
4c: Coordinates improvement efforts with other Specialists	Specialist tends to work in isolation, not coordinating improvement efforts in any way with other Specialists at the school.	Specialist is inconsistent in coordinating improvement efforts with other Specialists at the school, inhibiting a common vision and aligned focus for the work.	Specialist consistently coordinates improvement efforts with other Specialists at the school, creating a single vision of effective instruction and a clear and aligned approach to leveraging this.	Specialist seeks opportunities to coordinate improvement efforts with other Specialists at the school and with other stakeholders, including external stakeholders, who can provide support for the improvement work.
4d: Engages with the larger school community	Specialist does not participate in school committees, projects, and/or events. Professional relationships with peers are distant or negative.	Specialist selectively engages with school committees, projects, and/or events, typically when asked. Relationships with colleagues are professionally courteous.	Specialist actively participates in, supports, and contributes to school committees, projects, and/or events. Professional relationships are positive, cooperative, and productive.	Specialist seeks opportunities to engage in school events, projects, and/or committees and makes significant contributions to these, often taking a leadership role.

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DOMAIN 4: PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES (cont'd)

<p><i>4e: Enhances professional capacity through ongoing professional learning</i></p>	<p>Specialist does not participate in professional learning.</p>	<p>Specialist participates only in professional learning required by the district or state. Specialist makes limited attempts to share the professional learning with school staff.</p>	<p>Specialist seeks professional learning opportunities, including coaching, to improve professional practice. Specialist schedules opportunities to share the professional learning with</p>	<p>Specialist seeks out formal and informal professional learning, including feedback from colleagues and attendance at professional conferences. Specialist applies this learning to improve the counseling services and to</p>
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