

Reminder: Your Teacher Education Applicant Questionnaire must be completed online through the Google form. This document is provided only for your planning purposes. Answers submitted on this document will not be accepted.

Tips on completing your Teacher Education Applicant Questionnaire:

- If you have questions about the application, please feel free to contact Nina Fox (nfox@utk.edu). Properly understanding the application requirements is key to submitting a complete and competitive application.
- Take time to complete the questions carefully. Your responses will be sent to the Admissions Board exactly as submitted, so you want to minimize or eliminate errors. Proofread carefully. We suggest that you type your essay responses into a word document first before copying and pasting into the online form in order to help with this proofreading process.
- Use as much or as little space as you wish to fully answer the essay questions. There is no minimum or maximum word count for these questions, and no limit to the space available in the online form.
- Have someone you trust read your essay responses for content and grammatical errors. Does your proofreader understand what you are trying to communicate? Ask his/her opinion of how fully you have answered the questions.
- When responding to questions on the questionnaire, emphasize the experiences you have had working with children and young adults in and outside of school settings.
- Pay special attention to the reasons you are choosing teaching as a career:
 - Liking children is necessary, but is not sufficient as the only reason you indicate for your desire to become a teacher.
 - Relate your own experiences with children and young adults and how these experiences have shaped your desire to become a teacher.
 - Think about specific goals you would like to accomplish as a teacher and be able to verbalize these goals in the interview.
 - Reflect your love for learning. People who teach children should enjoy learning and school activities related to learning.
 - Give thought to your experiences with people. Your leadership ability, as well as any experiences you have had dealing with conflict and problem-solving in human relationships, all reflect your potential as a teacher. The interview panel will be looking for evidence of these qualities.

Teacher Education Applicant Questionnaire (essay questions):

1. Why are you interested in becoming a teacher?
2. Why do you think that you could become a successful teacher?
3. Why have you chosen to enter this particular field of teaching?
4. What experiences have you had with children and/or youth?
5. In your opinion, what is the major challenge facing today's teacher?
6. Professionally, what would you like to be doing ten years from now?