

## TENNESSEE DURABLE SKILLS & CAREER READINESS

# State Alignment Summary

Assess · Develop · Document

Renzulli Learning is the K–12 platform that **both assesses and develops the durable skills** Tennessee’s **Diploma Project**, the **22-credit regular diploma**, the **Ready Graduate Index**, the **Tri-Star Scholar** designation, the **Industry 4.0 distinction**, the **3-credit Elective Focus**, the **16 Career Clusters**, the **7 Tennessee CTSOs**, and the **Future Ready Tennessee** initiative demand — *critical thinking, creativity, executive function, leadership, collaboration, communication, and self-direction.*

### OVERVIEW

Tennessee’s career readiness framework is anchored by **TDOE** and the **Tennessee Diploma Project** (implemented **2009**). The regular diploma requires a **22-credit minimum**: 4 English, 4 Math (Algebra I, II, Geometry + 4th higher-level), 3 Science (incl. Biology I), 3 Social Studies (World History, US History, 0.5 Econ, 0.5 Civics), 1.5 PE/Wellness, 2 FL, 1 Fine Arts, **3 Elective Focus**, 1 Computer Science (2024-25+). **4 diploma options**: Regular, Special Education, Occupational, Alternate Academic Diploma (AAD). All students take **ACT or SAT** in 11th grade. Two civics requirements: project-based civics assessment (T.C.A. § 49-6-1028) + USCIS test 70%+ (T.C.A. § 49-6-408). Special honors: **Tri-Star Scholar** (ACT 19+ + capstone IC OR Work Ethic Distinction), **Industry 4.0 distinction**, State Honors, District Distinction, Seal of Biliteracy, NCRC gold/platinum. The **Ready Graduate Index** = TN’s primary CCR accountability under ESSA (Perkins V Plan goal: 46% → 50%). TN CTE = **16 Career Clusters; 7 CTSOs** (DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, TSA). Tennessee was Cherokee Nation homeland; the Trail of Tears passed through Fort Cass, Ross’s Landing, and Fort Armistead; today no federally-recognized tribes are HQ in Tennessee. Renzulli is the only K-12 platform that both **assesses** these durable skills (CTC, EFA, Leadership Assessment, Profiler) and **develops** them (PBL, PSP, Enrichment Database).

## TENNESSEE’S DURABLE SKILLS FRAMEWORK IN CONTEXT

TN’s framework is anchored by Diploma Project + 22 credits + Ready Graduate Index. **TDOE** administers career readiness through **Future Ready Tennessee**. CTE: 3-component structure (related content, skill demonstration, CTSO leadership). Industry credentials factor into Ready Graduate.

### WHERE TN STANDS

- **Diploma Project** — implemented 2009; raised to 22 cr
- **Ready Graduate Index** — primary CCR measure (ESSA)
- **22 Credits** — 4 diploma options; ACT/SAT in 11th
- **Tri-Star Scholar** — ACT 19+ + capstone IC OR Work Ethic
- **Industry 4.0** — high-need, high-skill distinction
- **3-Credit Elective Focus** — CTE / Arts / AP-IB / STEM
- **16 Career Clusters + 7 CTSOs**
- **2 civics req**: project-based + USCIS 70%+

### RENZULLI LEARNING ALIGNMENT

- **Both assesses + develops** all 22-credit durable skills
- **EFA + Leadership + PSP** support Ready Graduate Index
- **EFA** develops 22-credit persistence + ACT readiness
- **EFA + Leadership** support both Tri-Star paths
- **CTC + Leadership Assessment** support 4.0 readiness
- **Profiler** in 20+ langs informs Elective Focus
- **PBL** capstones complement Programs of Study
- **SEM Type III PBL** = natural fit for project-based civics

## ALIGNMENT TO TN’S DIPLOMA PROJECT, READY GRADUATE & CTE

How Renzulli Learning’s instruments and content directly assess and develop the durable skills behind each TN requirement:

### TENNESSEE REQUIREMENT

### HOW RENZULLI ASSESSES & DEVELOPS

## Ready Graduate Index

TN's primary federal CCR accountability measure under ESSA; incorporates ACT/SAT, Industry Credentials, dual enrollment, AP/IB, ASVAB, Early Postsecondary Opportunities; Perkins V Plan goal: 46% → 50%

Renzulli is the K-12 platform that **both assesses and develops** the durable skills behind Ready Graduate Index components. **EFA** develops persistence behind ACT readiness benchmarks. **Leadership Assessment** supports IC pathways. **SEM Type III PBL** produces capstone artifacts. **PSP** documents multi-year evidence.

## Tennessee Diploma Project

Implemented 2009; broad standards/curriculum overhaul to challenge students for college and workforce; raised graduation requirements from 20 to 22 credits; replaced Gateway Exams with End-of-Course exams

**All four Renzulli assessments** measure college- and career-readiness durable skills. **SEM Type III PBL** produces capstone artifacts. **EFA** develops academic preparation. **40,000+ Enrichment Database** aligns to TN's 22-credit course of study.

## Regular Diploma 22 Credits

4 English, 4 Math (Algebra I, II, Geometry + 4th higher-level), 3 Science (incl. Biology I), 3 Social Studies (World/US History, 0.5 Econ, 0.5 Civics), 1.5 PE/Wellness, 2 FL, 1 Fine Arts, 3 Elective Focus, 1 CS (2024-25+); ACT/SAT 11th

**EFA** develops persistence to complete 22+ credits. **SEM Type III PBL** produces portfolio artifacts. **40,000+ Enrichment Database** includes resources for all required content areas.

## Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar

Recognition for ACT composite 19+ + capstone industry credential, OR completion of Tennessee Work Ethic Distinction program; designation noted on diploma + transcript + graduation program

**EFA** develops persistence behind ACT 19+. **Leadership Assessment** supports Work Ethic Distinction pathway. **SEM Type III PBL** produces capstone artifacts complementing IC preparation. **PSP** documents Tri-Star progression.

## 16 Career Clusters / 7 CTSOs

TN CTE: 16 nationally recognized Career Clusters; Programs of Study with 3-component structure (related content, skill demonstration, CTSO leadership); 7 TN CTSOs (DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, TSA); TN Promoted IC List

**Profiler** in 20+ languages surfaces interests across all 16 Career Clusters. **PSP** guides Cluster exploration. **PBL** produces capstone artifacts. **Leadership Assessment** supports Tennessee CTSO leadership.

## Project-Based Civics + USCIS Test

T.C.A. § 49-6-1028: project-based civics assessment in grades 4-8 + 9-12; T.C.A. § 49-6-408: USCIS citizenship test 70%+; U.S. Civics All-Star School recognition at 85%+

**SEM Type III PBL** is a natural fit for project-based civics assessment — producing authentic projects, presentations, and portfolios. **40,000+ Enrichment Database** includes civics learning resources. **EFA** develops persistence supporting USCIS test preparation.

## KEY TAKEAWAY

For Tennessee districts, Renzulli Learning is **the only K-12 platform that both assesses and develops the durable skills** behind every Ready Graduate Index component, Diploma Project requirement, and Tri-Star Scholar pathway. The same durable-skills foundation operationalizes the **22-credit Diploma Project**, the **Ready Graduate Index**, the **Tri-Star Scholar** designation, the **Industry 4.0 distinction**, the **3-credit Elective Focus**, the **16 Career Clusters**, the **7 CTSOs**, and the **project-based civics assessment** — from Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Murfreesboro, Clarksville, Franklin, and Johnson City to rural Tennessee districts.

### WANT THE FULL DETAILS?

Visit the complete Tennessee Durable Skills & Career Readiness alignment page for the full Diploma Project analysis, Ready Graduate crosswalk, and FAQs.

[renzullilearning.com/en/tennessee-career-readiness-alignment-renzulli-learning](https://renzullilearning.com/en/tennessee-career-readiness-alignment-renzulli-learning)

### CUSTOM ALIGNMENTS AVAILABLE

Need a custom alignment for your district's Ready Graduate Index reporting, Tri-Star Scholar pathway, Industry 4.0 distinction, or 3-credit Elective Focus implementation?

+1 (203) 680-8301 · [renzullilearning.com/en/contact-us](https://renzullilearning.com/en/contact-us)

## REFERENCES AND SOURCES REVIEWED

• **TDOE — Diploma Project** (2009); 22 credits + 4 diploma options; **Ready Graduate Index**; Tri-Star Scholar; Industry 4.0; 3-cr Elective Focus; civics (T.C.A. §§ 49-6-1028 + 408); Move on When Ready; **16 Career Clusters**; 7 CTSOs