

TOURETTE SYNDROME IN SCHOOL

WHAT EVERY EDUCATOR SHOULD KNOW

Supporting students with Tourette Syndrome starts with understanding that tics are one part of their experience and creating a supportive, flexible school environment that helps them learn, participate, and thrive.



1 in 50 school-aged children live with Tourette Syndrome or another Persistent Tic Disorder.



Tics are involuntary motor movements and vocal sounds.



Tics often wax and wane.



Stress, fatigue, and unstructured settings **may increase symptoms**.

Common supports include extended time, keyboarding or scribe, breaks, regulation supports, quiet testing space, clear directions, and routines.



Tics are the tip of the iceberg - only one visible part of the student's experience. Under the surface, students may be dealing with ADHD, Anxiety, OCD, Dysgraphia, executive functioning deficits, sensory issues, social communication difficulties, disinhibition, transition difficulties, and more.
Learn more at tourette.org/iceberg



DO:

- Ignore tics when safe to do so
- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Provide flexible accommodations and supports
- Use positive, proactive interventions
- Involve the student in planning
- Communicate with families and team members



DO NOT:

- Do **not** encourage tic suppression.
- Do **not** use punishment or rewards to control tics.
- Do **not** write goals for tic reduction.

The TAA is here to provide personalized support, coordinate trainings, and more.
Questions? Please reach out to programs@tourette.org or call 888-486-8738