



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

# SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FAQS

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## FY25 School Improvement Grants Open Office Hours

**November 21, 2024**



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

# SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS TEAM

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- **Jackie Carlin**, Assistant Administrator
- **Katharine Delavan**, School Improvement Grant Manager
- **Dan Sipek**, Educational Program Specialist
- **Jennifer Myree**, Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Grant Manager
- **Lauren Miranda**, School Improvement Grant Intern



# OBJECTIVES

## **1. School Improvement Grant FAQ Topics**

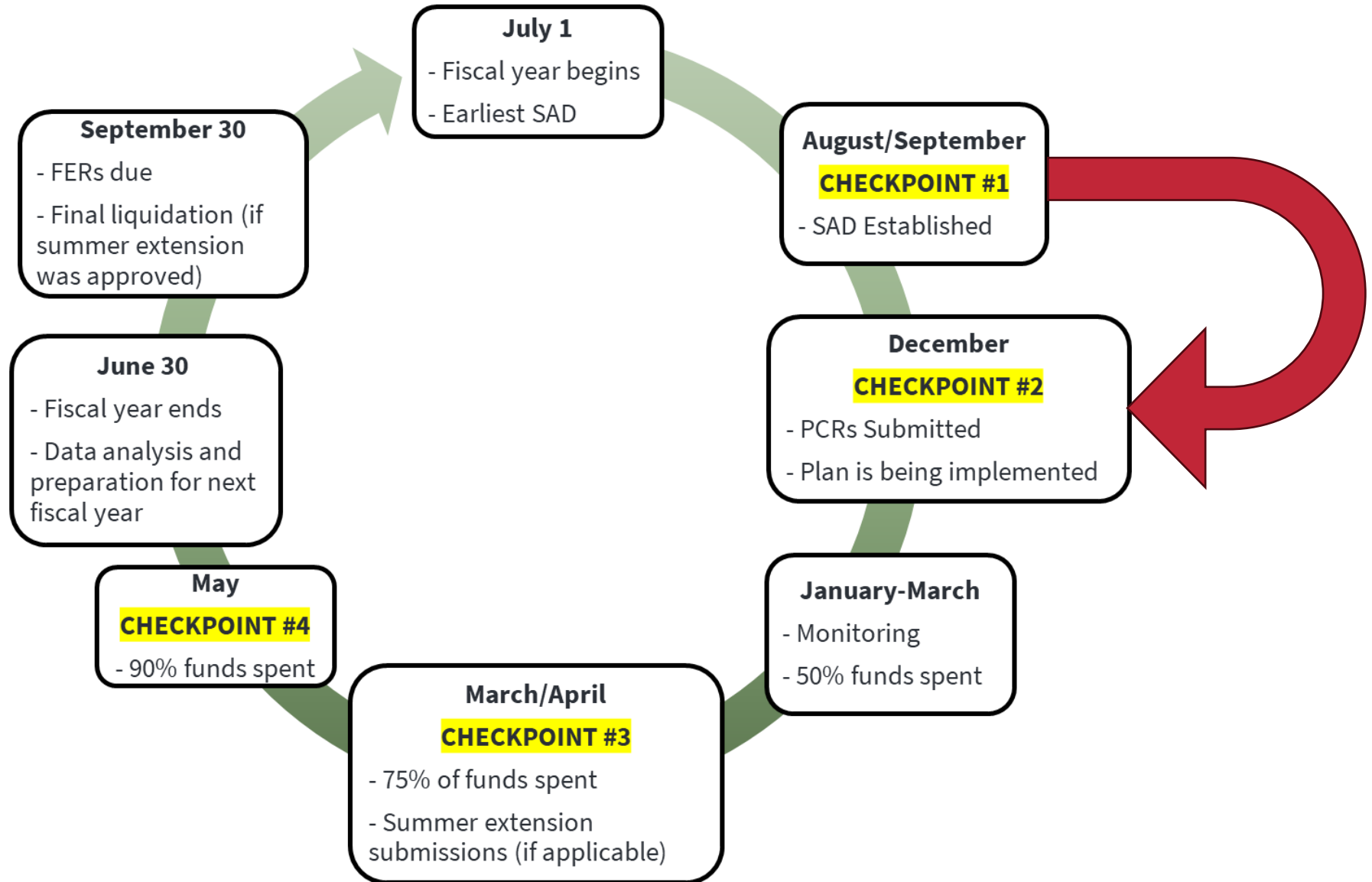
- Eligibility
- Identification
- Monitoring
- ESSA Levels of Evidence

## **2. Discussion and Q&A**

# ACRONYMS

- SAD = Substantially Approved Date
- PCR = Project Cash Request
- FER = Final Expenditure Report
- TI NC SSI = Title I Non-Competitive Supplemental School Improvement grant
- EOEC NC = Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Non-Competitive grant
- CSI = Comprehensive Support and Improvement
- ATSI = Additional Targeted Support and Improvement

# SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT LIFE CYCLE



# TITLE I NON-COMPETITIVE SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT (TI NC SSI)

- **Intent and Purpose:** TI NC SSI formula funds are intended to support high-quality, sustainable school improvement activities that increase student achievement and address the needs of identified schools.
- Activities must be aligned to the LEA or building One Plan.

# EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH CHILD NON-COMPETITIVE (EOEC NC) GRANT

- **Intent and Purpose:** EOEC NC funds may only be used to facilitate enrollment and participation in academic courses that are ***not currently available***.
  - LEAs must ***expand*** access and enrollment by adding ***new course offerings*** or ***substantially increase*** access to existing programs for low achieving students.
- Activities must be aligned to the LEA or building One Plan.

# GRANT ELIGIBILITY & IDENTIFICATION

# AM I ELIGIBLE FOR SI GRANT FUNDS?

- To receive School Improvement Grant funds, the LEA must have at least one (1) **CSI** or **ATSI** school based on the identification status from the 2023 Report Card (school year 2022-2023).

# WHY WAS MY SCHOOL IDENTIFIED?

- **Identification Resources on [DEW Website](#):**
  - [CSI](#) and [ATSI](#) Buildings
  - School Identification [Entry and Exit Criteria](#)
  - [Identification Dashboard](#)
- **Inbox for LEA questions:** [identification@education.ohio.gov](mailto:identification@education.ohio.gov)

# HOW LONG WILL MY SCHOOL RECEIVE SI GRANT FUNDS?

- There is no carryover of these funds into the subsequent year (FY26)
- Length of funding is July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
  - An approved Summer Extension allows for obligations and liquidation through September 30, 2025
- LEAs receive School Improvement funds for as long as the building is identified

# WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SCHOOL EXITS CSI OR ATSI IDENTIFICATION STATUS?

- If a building exits CSI or ATSI status during In January 2025, , the identified building will be able to complete the fiscal year grant plan and spending through to the end of the fiscal year, or June 30, 2025.

# WHEN WILL I KNOW IF MY BUILDING HAS EXITED CSI OR ATSI IDENTIFICATION?

- At a minimum, the LEA Superintendent and Principal(s) will receive a notification letter in January 2025 from [Identification@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Identification@education.ohio.gov).
- School Identification [Exit Criteria](#):
  - CSI schools must show two consecutive years of improvement above the cut score that led to their original identification **AND** performance higher than the lowest 5% of schools (based on Ohio School Report Card data) for two consecutive years.
  - ATSI schools must show two consecutive years of improvement for the subgroup(s) that led to the identification **AND** perform higher than the CSI identification threshold cut score from the year identified.
- If the building has exited CSI or ATSI status, the building may continue to spend School Improvement grant funds through the remainder of the fiscal year.

# CAN I USE MY GRANT FUNDS AT ANY BUILDING IN MY DISTRICT?

- School Improvement Grant funds are building level grants.
  - Title I Non-Competitive Supplemental School Improvement Grant funds can **only** be spent on the CSI or ATSI identified building(s).
  - Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Non-Competitive grant funds can be allocated to fund programs or initiatives for low performing students attending **ANY** school within the LEA, but must follow the prioritization criteria.
  - For both grants, the LEA must provide a rationale for choosing not to allocate funds to an identified building.

# GRANT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

# WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR GRANT MONITORING?

- DEW is responsible for monitoring the overall performance of the Federal award to ensure that the goals and objectives of the grant are achieved.
  - 1. Fiscal Evaluation:** Expenditures must be reasonable, allowable, allocable and necessary.
  - 2. Program Evaluation:** Ensure all requirements and performance expectations are met. Must also ensure grant funds are spent in alignment with the intent and purpose of the grant.

# WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR INTERNAL PROGRAM MONITORING?

- **For TI NC SSI (ESSA Sec. 1003(b)(2)(B)):**
  - LEAs will “monitor schools receiving funds under this section, including how the local educational agency will carry out its responsibilities under clauses (iv) and (v) of section 1111(d)(2)(B) if funds received under this section are used to support schools implementing targeted support and improvement plans”
- **For EOEC NC (ESSA Sec. 1003A(d)(6)):**
  - LEAs will “monitor the provision of direct student service”

# WHAT DOES INTERNAL PROGRAM MONITORING LOOK LIKE?

- **Student outcomes:** Academic data and behavioral data including attendance data
- **Adult outcomes:** Training and implementation data
- **When and how often should this data be collected during the grant year?**
  - Monthly, quarterly, each semester or once a year?

# WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF INTERNAL MONITORING?

- **Student outcome example:** During each semester of the 2024-25 academic year, Star reading assessment scores for all students (with a focus on students with disabilities) will be monitored. The annual improvement goal is a 5% increase in Star scores for the LEA.
- **Adult outcome example:** Fidelity of implementation will be based on classroom walkthroughs using a rubric and lesson plan reviews. The goal is that 90% of literacy instruction will be based on the Science of Reading by the fourth quarter of the 2024-25 school year.

# ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF INTERNAL MONITORING

- **Student outcome example:** The district will monitor the implementation of the grant funded programming through a review of course enrollment, registration for college entrance exams by 10th grade students, and the number of students receiving industry credentials during the 2024-25 school year. At the end of the year, the percentage of students earning credits in each course will show a yearly increase of 5%.
- **Adult outcome example:** A counselor will assist in the implementation and data collection of the extended learning program. The counselor will host sessions with students, utilize a student affect framework, and asking questions on student learning initiative. Data will be reviewed monthly at the BLT meeting.

# WHO SHOULD BE AT THE TABLE WHEN MAKING DECISIONS FOR SI GRANT FUNDED ACTIVITIES?

- That depends on the LEA size and LEA team configuration. However, the decision-makers should have an awareness of the district One Plan, Fiscal Guidelines and School Improvement Protocols

# ESSA LEVELS OF EVIDENCE

# WHERE DO WE FIND ESSA LEVEL STRATEGIES?

- ESSA requires the use of evidence-based strategies to support students.
  - Only Levels 1-3 may be used for School Improvement grants (TI NC SSI and EOEC NC)
- There are several resources available for LEAs to find Evidenced-Based strategies. The **What Works Clearinghouse** and **Evidence for ESSA** websites provide examples of evidence-based strategies by grade, content, and student needs.
  - [Evidence For ESSA](#)
  - [What Works Clearinghouse](#)

# EVIDENCE FOR ESSA

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Evidence for ESSA website. At the top left is the logo "EVIDENCE for ESSA" with a colorful graphic. To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "About", "Who We Are", "FAQs", "Contact Us", and a "Search" button. Below the navigation menu is a horizontal list of subject categories: "READING", "MATH", "SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL", "ATTENDANCE", "SCIENCE", and "FAMILY ENGAGEMENT". The main content area features a large background image of a smiling young child in a classroom. Overlaid on the left side of this image is the text "Find Evidence-Based PK-12 Programs" and a sub-headline "Your standard for the most up-to-date and reliable information on programs that meet ESSA evidence standards." Below this text is a button that says "LEARN MORE ABOUT ESSA >". At the bottom of the main content area is a grid of six subject categories, each with an icon and a right-pointing arrow:

- Reading**: Icon of an open book.
- Math**: Icon of a chalkboard with mathematical symbols.
- Social-Emotional**: Icon of two hands shaking.
- Attendance**: Icon of a calendar with a checkmark.
- Science**: Icon of laboratory glassware.
- Family Engagement**: Icon of a group of people.

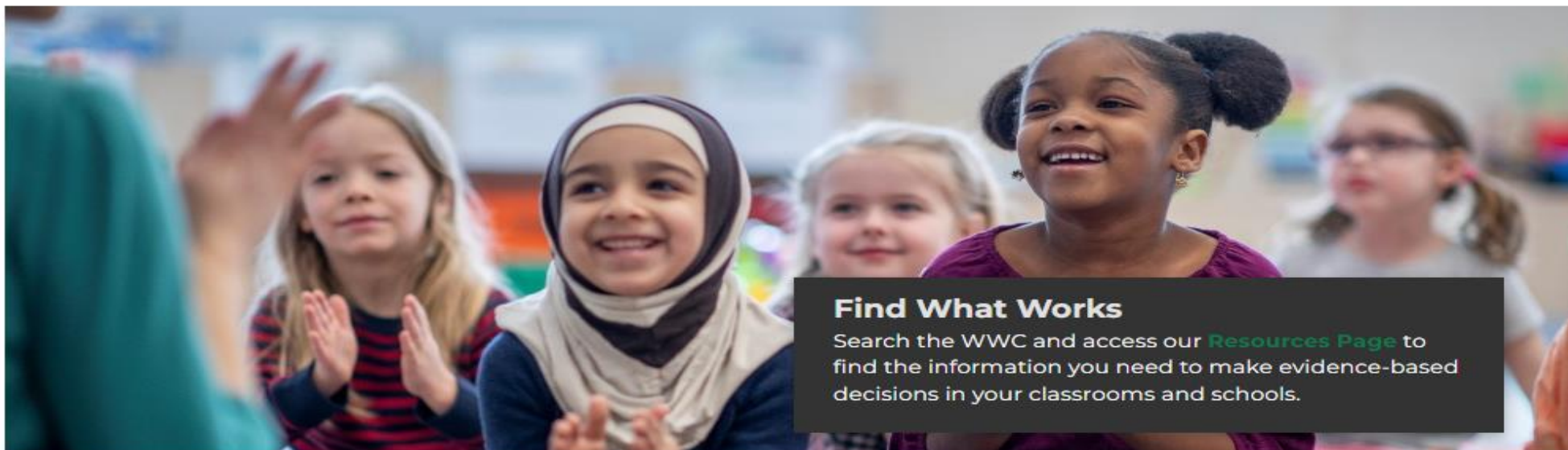
# WHAT WORKS CLEARINGHOUSE

IES : WWC What Works Clearinghouse

MENU

Search

Go



## Search the WWC

Enter keyword(s)

Topic (No option selected)

Grade band

Search



### Practice Guides:

evidence-based recommendations for educators to improve student outcomes.



### Intervention Reports:

summaries of findings of the highest-quality research on a given intervention or practice in education.



### Reviews of Individual Studies:

summaries of individual studies that have been reviewed by the WWC.



### Data From Study Reviews:

downloadable data from WWC study reviews.



# EXIT TICKET

We welcome and appreciate your feedback.

Please take a few minutes to complete the Exit Ticket.

FY25 School Improvement Open  
Office Hours Webinar: FAQs  
11/21/24



# TI NC SSI RESOURCES & CONTACT INFORMATION

- Resources can be found on the [School Improvement Grants Webpage](#)
- **Contact the SI Grants Team**
  - General Inbox: [School\\_Improvement@education.ohio.gov](mailto:School_Improvement@education.ohio.gov)
  - Katharine Delavan at [Katharine.Delavan@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Katharine.Delavan@education.ohio.gov)
  - Dan Sipek at [Daniel.Sipek@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Daniel.Sipek@education.ohio.gov)

# EOEC NC RESOURCES & CONTACT INFORMATION

- Resources can be found on the [Expanding Opportunities for Each Child webpage](#)
- **Contact the EOEC Grant Team**
  - Grant Inbox: [eoecgrant@education.ohio.gov](mailto:eoecgrant@education.ohio.gov)
  - Jennifer Myree: [Jennifer.Myree@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Myree@education.ohio.gov)

# UPCOMING OPTIONAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT OPEN OFFICE HOURS

- **SI GLC Checkpoint #2: Implementing Your Grant** on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 1:00 pm **\*DATE CHANGE\***  
🎯 **Register [Here](#)**
- **January - June 2025:** *Dates and topics coming soon!*
- **15 Minute OOH Follow-Up Session** beginning on October 24th



# THANK YOU

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