CCIP Note #487

Re: **Delay in ESSER Reimbursements**
Date: November 4, 2021
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives and Consolidated Funding Application Contacts of ESSER Recipients

This message is for recipients of grant funding under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). There will be a slight delay in fulfilling reimbursement requests from the fund. The requests for reimbursement received to date have temporarily exhausted the available appropriation (state spending authority). The Department is working to resolve this issue as quickly as possible and seeking additional appropriation authority. The General Assembly has not introduced a bill to establish additional appropriation authority, but is expected to do so in the near future. Please continue to spend against your approved ESSER budgets and submit Project Cash Requests as you normally would.

For districts concerned with carrying a temporary negative cash balance in their ESSER Fund (507), this may be addressed by Revised Code Section 3315.20. This law allows a district to have a deficit in any special fund if both of the following conditions are met:

A. A request for payment pending payment with the state is sufficient to cover the amount of the deficit and there is a reasonable likelihood that payment will be made
B. The unspent and unencumbered balance in the district's general fund is greater than the aggregate of deficit amounts in all of the district's special funds

We apologize for any inconvenience this creates and we appreciate your patience as we work with our partners in the General Assembly to resolve it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Grants.Management@education.ohio.gov.