Expanding Opportunities for Each Child

Rural Grantee Forum



Office for Improvement and Innovation

October 6, 2022

Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Grant: MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Welcome! Introducing Our Presenters
- Grant Focus Areas: Benefits and Results for Rural Students
- Making Connections: Rural-Specific Regional Support Available to Grantees
- Discussion and Q&A

GRANTEE FORUM PRESENTERS



Liz Price

(she/her/hers)

Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Grant Manager at the Ohio Department of Education



David Cloud, PhD.

(he/him/his)

Rural Liaison at the Ohio Department of Education

Expanding Opportunities for Each Child

Grant Focus Areas:



Career Pathways

Credit Recovery & Academic Acceleration

Advanced Coursework

Personalized Learning

Expanding Opportunities for Each Child
Grant Focus Areas

1. **Career Pathways:** Career pathways align with the skill needs of industries in the state or regional economy and prepare an individual to be successful in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options.

2. **Advanced Coursework:** grant activities may include **Advanced Placement**, **International Baccalaureate**, **Advanced STEM** and **College Credit Plus** coursework.

3. **Personalized Learning:** an approach to teaching that allows teachers to provide students with a variety of ways to achieve their best. Teachers determine the appropriate instructional approaches and academic supports aligned to individual student interests, desires and needs.

4. **Credit Recovery and Academic Acceleration:** funds can support **credit recovery** and **academic acceleration courses** that lead to a regular high school diploma.

Grant Focus Area:	Career Pathways	Credit Recovery & Academic Acceleration	Advanced Coursework	Personalized Learning
Results:	Career Pathways afford students the opportunity to gain **work and project-based learning** experience to receive **industry-recognized credentials** and a high school diploma.	Schools experiencing student population learning loss can offer **credit recovery options**. Academic acceleration provides opportunities for **accelerated learning** to allow students to go at their own pace and enter the next grade.	Advanced coursework provides students an opportunity to challenge themselves with **obtaining college credit while in high school.**	Personalized learning allows educators to determine the appropriate instructional approaches and academic supports to **meet individual student needs** and **close achievement gaps**.
Benefits:	**Workplace Readiness and Alternative Pathways to Graduation**	**Closing Achievement Gaps and Accelerated Learning**	**Dual Enrollment Opportunities**	**Student-Centered Learning**

Expanding Opportunities:

"significantly expanded" | not otherwise available | "substantially increasing access" | NEW

Grant Focus Areas and Expanding Opportunities:

- The **career pathways** coursework **must** be aligned with state academic standards and lead to industry-recognized credentials. Grants funds **must** be used to facilitate enrollment and participation in academic **courses not otherwise available at a student's school**.

- Implementing **advanced coursework** with this grant **must expand** access and enrollment by adding **new course offerings** or **substantially increasing** access to existing programs, especially for the lowest-achieving students and students from low-income families. Funding in the **advanced coursework** category must lead to enrollment and participation in advanced courses that **would not otherwise be available** at the student's school.



Expanding Opportunities for Rural Students: Potential Benefits and Results

Rural Facts

- Approximately **one in five** students in the United States attend schools in a rural locale.

- Kindergarten **math and reading achievement is slightly higher in rural** than non-rural schools, but this **advantage fades by the end of grade 3**. Non-rural students increasingly outperform rural students from grades 3 to 8.

- Some federal and state formulas distribute funds based on enrollment or concentration of low-income students, which can put rural districts at a disadvantage. The *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) prioritizes a focused approach to improvement in rural, low-income areas. The Office for Improvement and Innovation revised the funding allocation model to target identified buildings to provide additional support and is working to offset the disparity in funding for rural districts by allocating an **additional $10,000** to buildings in rural districts.

- 57 EOEC grantees are rural Ohio districts

Rural Challenges:

Scarcity of funding, instructors, and programming → Deflated academic achievement and growth → Disparity in rural student academic achievement and growth

EOEC Solutions:

Targeted funding resulting in increased institutional access → More opportunities and increased access to high-quality instruction through direct student services → Increased student academic achievement and growth

CHALLENGE: OPPORTUNITY GAPS

Rural schools face unique challenges including scarcity of funding, instructors, and facilities. As a result, students have less opportunities to choose from.

- Providing learners **access to diverse career pathways** in rural areas is a persistent challenge for all states
- **Advanced coursework** is less abundant in rural schools
- Remoteness of schools can create real difficulties for recruitment and retention of teachers
- Professional training and development is less abundant for rural teachers
- Rural students experience lower achievement scores and larger summer learning loss

How do EOEC funds address low-income, low-opportunity students?

Career Pathways	Academic Acceleration and Credit Recovery	Advanced Coursework	Personalized Learning
EOEC funds can be used to **introduce and expand** existing Career Pathways.	EOEC funds can be used to expand access to options for credit recovery for students experiencing **summer learning loss**.	EOEC funds can be used to **introduce** new advanced coursework in rural schools.	Components of a personalized learning approach can be utilized to **close achievement gaps**.

EOEC funds can be used to provide **teacher preparation** and **professional development**, including training. EOEC funds can be used to pay for **salaries and benefits** for staff activities directly related to the **new or expanded opportunity**.

CHALLENGE: ACHEIVEMENT GAPS

Relative to other locales, rural students, schools, and communities have unique challenges that may deflate academic achievement and growth:

- Rural students are more likely to graduate from high school than their urban peers — but they are **less likely to pursue higher education** and far more likely to drop out of college.
- This **gap between rural and urban** youth has widened over the last 20 months due to the impacts of COVID-19.
- Rural students start kindergarten slightly ahead of nonrural students but **fall behind** by middle school. The divergence is driven by **larger summer losses** for rural students. In both rural and nonrural schools, evidence supports that Black–White achievement gaps widen during the school year.

How do EOEC funds address low-achieving students?

Career Pathways	Academic Acceleration and Credit Recovery	Advanced Coursework	Personalized Learning
EOEC funds can be used to **introduce and expand** existing Career Pathways. Participation in Career Pathways and receiving **industry-recognized credentials** is positively correlated with postsecondary degree attainment.	EOEC funds can support credit recovery options for students that are falling behind. Students can be encouraged to chose academic acceleration to stay engaged – even during **summer months**.	EOEC funds can be used to **introduce** new advanced coursework in rural schools. Advanced coursework is positively correlated with **improved student academic achievement**.	Components of a personalized learning approach can be utilized to **close achievement gaps** exasperated by **summer learning loss**. A personalized learning path can extend into summer months.

GRANTEE FORUM PRESENTER



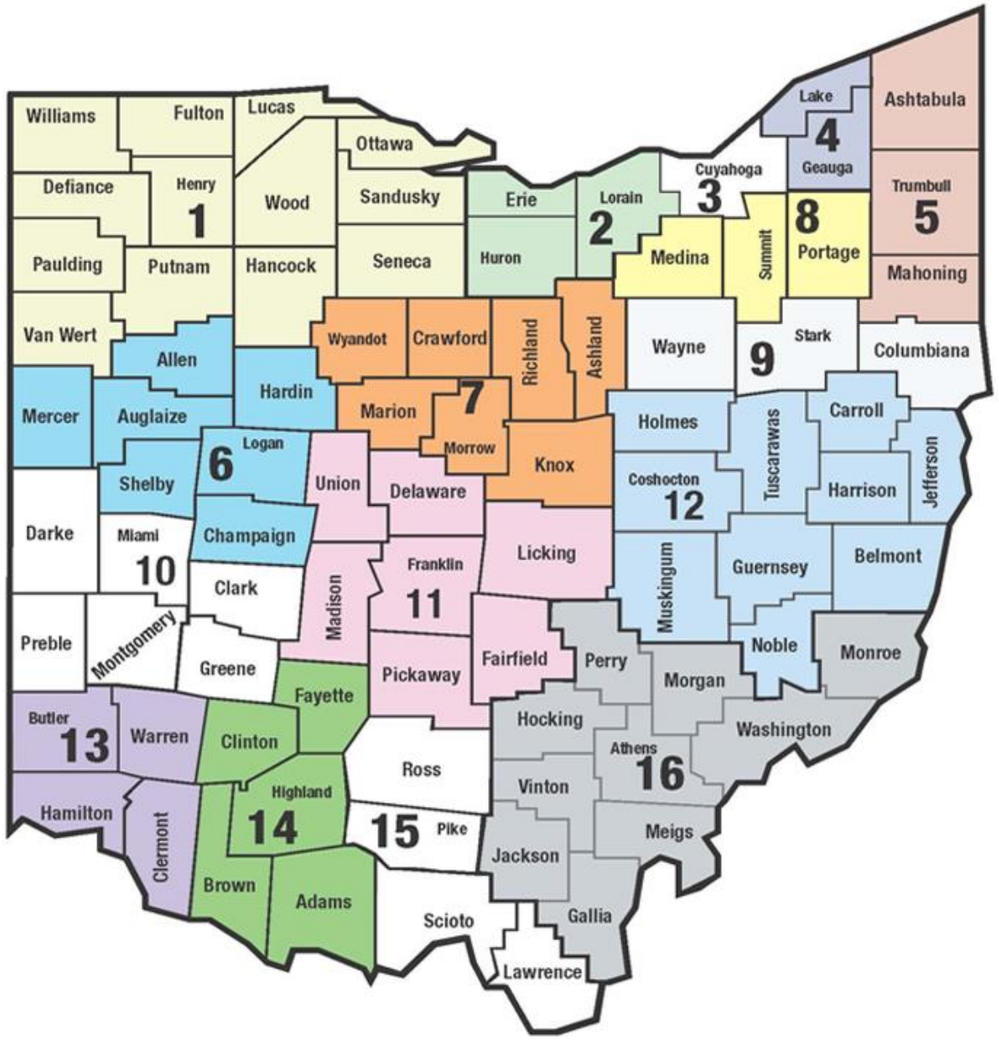
David Cloud, PhD.

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Rural Liaison at the Ohio Department of Education

Making Connections

Office for Improvement and Innovation - Regional Support Team

Connecting Grantees with the Statewide System of Support



Ohio's Statewide System of Support



- With the Ohio Department of Education, the Statewide System of Support includes:
  - State Support Teams,
  - Education Service Centers,
  - Information Technology Centers,
  - Professional Associations and Organizations

Rural Challenges:

Scarcity of funding, instructors, and programming → Deflated academic achievement and growth → Disparity in rural student academic achievement and growth

EOEC Funding & Statewide System of Support:

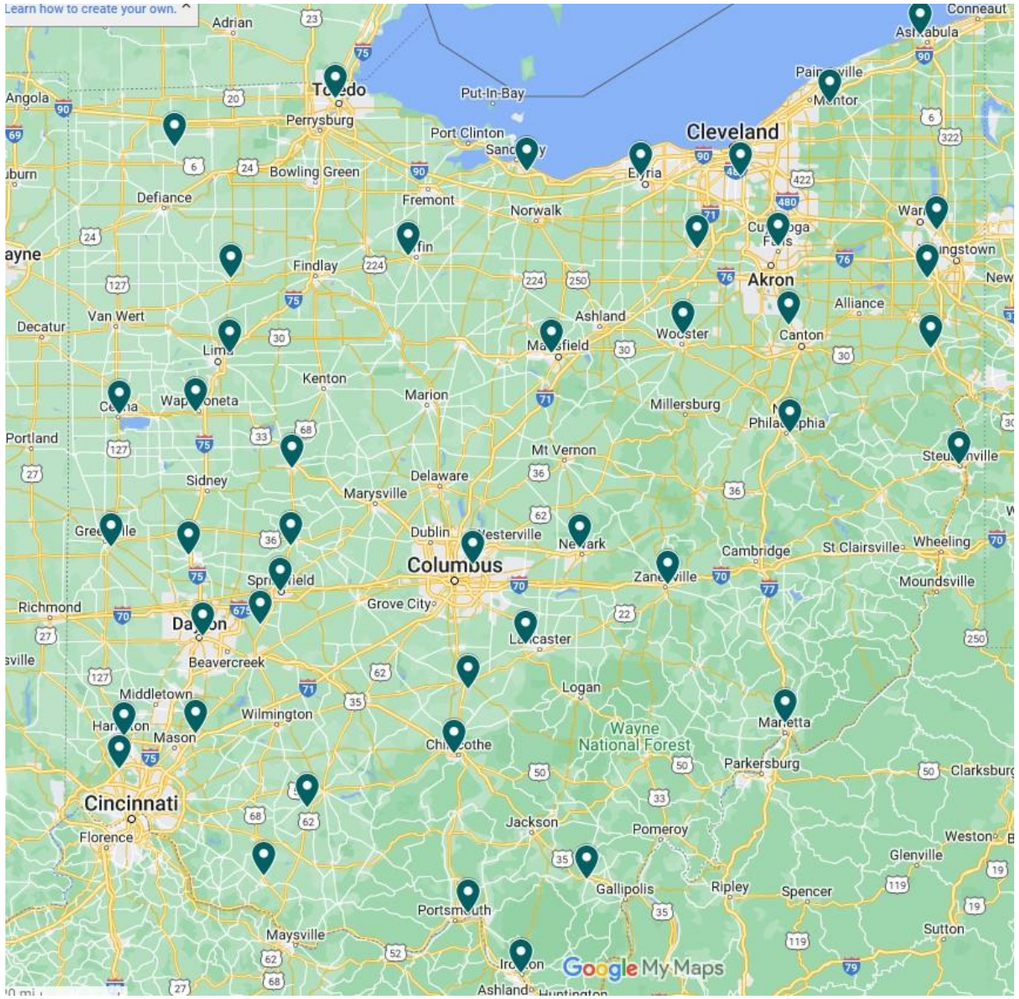
Professional Capital Support → **Recruitment, Retention, and Professional Development Opportunities** → **Increased ability to implement new programs**

Ohio's Statewide System of Support: State Support Teams

- Your State Support Team:
  - Provides **coordination and support** for common barriers in school improvement and services for low-performing students.
  - **Collaborates** with schools, families, regional partners and the Department to ensure each child in Ohio has access to a high-quality education.
  - Can **support your EOEC programming** by offering research-based practices to build custom solutions for your building administrators, program directors, teachers, and partners with your team.
  - Provides in-person and virtual professional development opportunities that support schools in implementing new **career pathways**, **advanced coursework**, **academic acceleration**, **credit recovery**, and **personalized learning** opportunities

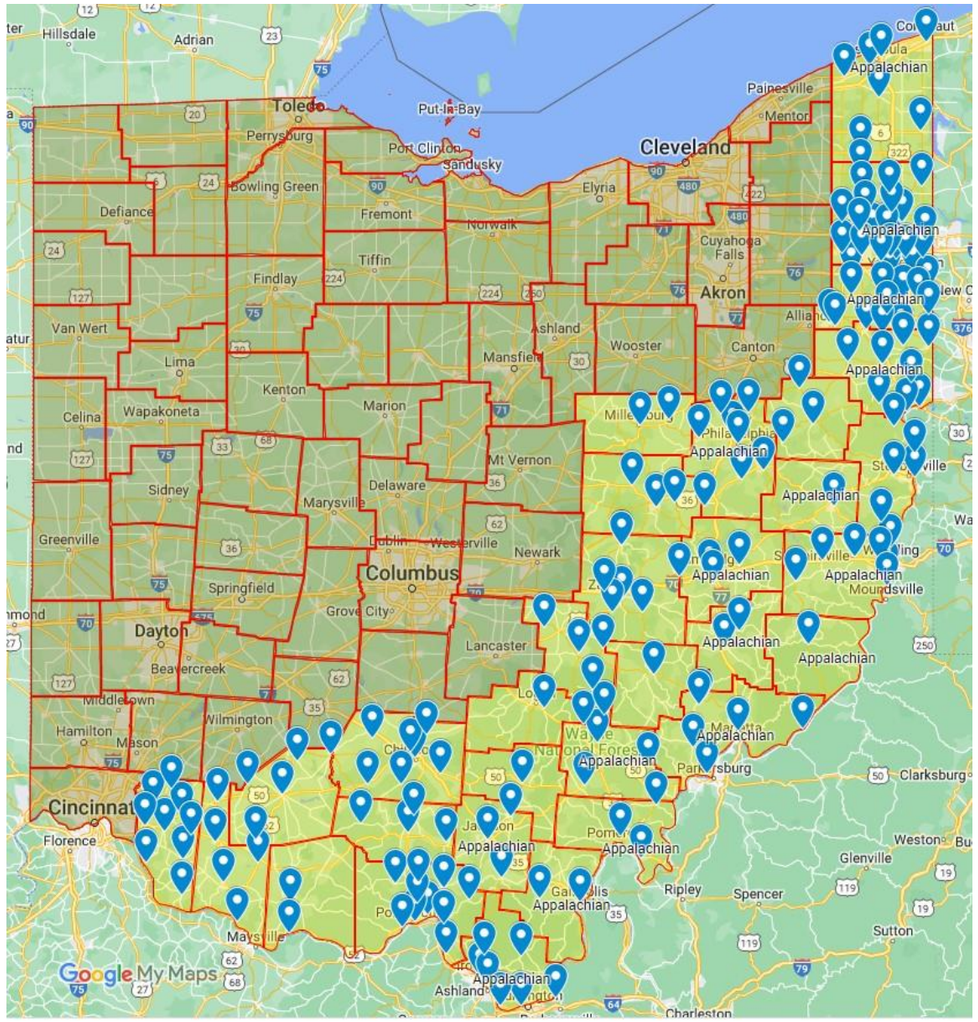


Ohio's Statewide System of Support: Education Service Center Locations



- Ohio's 51 Educational Service Centers (ESCs) assist the Department in implementing state-level efforts at the regional and local levels.
- Districts and schools rely on ESCs for **professional development, specialized instructional programs, behavioral and health services, technology,** and **fiscal and administrative services**.
- ESCs can support district and building leadership teams in evaluating and improving existing EOEC grant-funded programs

Ohio’s Appalachian Districts



Ohio's Appalachian Country encompasses 32 Ohio counties.

Schools choosing the Career Pathways option should consider the following:

- Align programs with in-demand job sectors or new and emerging fields as reflected in labor market data
- Consider workforce gaps as a factor. The pathway should lead to an industry-recognized credential.
- Create programs that will increase opportunities for students from low-income families and communicate this to the community.

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC) OF OHIO

- The ARC of Ohio provides regional-specific labor market and workforce data reports, evaluations, and informational resources that schools can use to inform their choices.

UPCOMING GRANTEE FORUMS

Making Schools Work Site Forum Convening

Friday, November 18, 2022 | 9-11AM | Microsoft Teams

Topic of conversation: Making Connections

- MSW school leaders are welcome to present at upcoming grantee forum convenings. All grantees are welcome.
- Hosted by Liz Price, Office for Improvement and Innovation, and Dennis Haft, Office of Graduate Success

If you are interested in presenting at an upcoming grantee forum convening, email Liz Price at Elizabeth.Price@education.ohio.gov

Resources & Contact Information

- *Expanding Opportunities for Each Child* website

- Grant Inbox: eoecgrant@education.ohio.gov

- Liz Price – EOEC Grant Manager: Elizabeth.Price@education.ohio.gov

- David Cloud – Rural Liaison: David.Cloud@education.ohio.gov