

Ohio Department of Education



CENTER AND PROGRAM OFFICE CONTACT LIST

Ohio Department of Education

Center and Program Office Contact List

[Each Child, Our Future](#) is Ohio’s shared plan for ensuring each student is *challenged, prepared* and *empowered* for his or her future by way of an excellent prekindergarten through grade 12 (preK-12) education. The plan’s purpose is to lift aspirations, create hope and excitement, guide development of state-level education policies and promote high-quality educational practices across the state.

To further of the goal and strategies in *Each Child, Our Future*, the Department is focused on helping schools and districts continually improve to be the best they can for each child. Department employees are ready to help. This directory provides contact information for frequently called offices within the Department and descriptions of the core work of each center/unit.

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The Ohio Department of Education is located in Columbus, Ohio. While each office has a unique mailstop, the general mailing address is:

25 S. Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, please call Relay Ohio first at 711.

Office numbers are included in this directory. However, due to the Department’s current telework arrangement, email is the encouraged method of communication.

Questions about this document may be directed to John Richard, deputy state superintendent.

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Center for Continuous Improvement

The Center for Continuous Improvement's work is anchored in the vision for Ohio's education system through quality schools, as articulated in Ohio's strategic plan for education, *Each Child, Our Future*. The center's mission is to provide "tools for schools" to financially and academically support students and educators. The center is comprised of four offices that focus on different "tools" to support quality schools. The Office of Community Schools provides quality educational options by sustaining superior sponsors as they support and guide community schools. The Office of Intensive Supports provides assistance to at-risk districts to avoid state takeover. Using the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP), the Office of Federal Programs empowers Ohio's educational communities to leverage federal resources to support the whole child. The Office for Improvement and Innovation seeks to improve the educational experiences in and out of school for Ohio's students to achieve increased success.

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Center for Performance and Impact

The Center for Performance and Impact supports educators and internal and external stakeholders to access, use and understand data and information to foster improvement and student success (One Goal, *Each Child, Our Future*). The work of the Center for Performance and Impact focuses on strategies 5 and 6 in *Each Child, Our Future*: “Assessments and accountability need to create a system of measurement and feedback that supports a continuous improvement culture driven by data.” To accomplish the center’s purpose and support strategies 5 and 6, staff ensure credible data sources and resources, build capacity for data use and understanding and provide resources for using evidence. There are three offices in the Center for Performance and Impact. They include the Office of Accountability (including Community School Sponsor Evaluation), Office of Assessment and Office of Research, Evaluation and Advanced Analytics. The Office of Accountability works closely with the Report Card Project team to develop and implement data and technology aspects of Ohio School Report Cards.

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Center for Student Supports

A successful student learning experience is enabled by equitable inclusion of all students and meeting the needs of the whole child, including students' physical, mental, behavioral and social-emotional health needs. The Center for Student Supports focuses on supporting the whole child with specific attention placed on strategies 7 and 8 of Ohio's Strategic Plan for Education, *Each Child, Our Future*, through the dedicated efforts of three program offices. The center's offices include the Office of Early Learning and School Readiness, Office for Exceptional Children and Office of Integrated Student Supports.

The Office of Early Learning and School Readiness supports the areas of preschool and school-age child care licensing in schools, Early Childhood Education grants, Head Start collaboration, early childhood curriculum and assessment, including Ohio's Early Learning Assessment and Kindergarten Readiness Assessment-Revised and Preschool Special Education.

The Office for Exceptional Children supports special education and gifted education. Specific topic areas include special education dispute resolution (mediation and facilitation of individualized education program meetings, complaints and due process), special education supports and monitoring, related services, IDEA fiscal requirements, low-incidence disabilities, special education profiles, data and reporting, gifted education and written education plans.

The Office of Integrated Student Supports focuses on meeting the needs of the whole child, including vulnerable student populations (English learners, homeless students, students in foster care, justice-involved youth), family and community engagement, child nutrition, school-based health care, school attendance, school culture and climate, school safety, social and emotional learning and mental/behavioral health.

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Center for Teaching, Leading and Learning

The Center for Teaching, Leading and Learning is comprised of six interconnected offices and one unit: Educator Licensure, Professional Conduct, Educator Effectiveness, Learning and Instructional Strategies, Approaches to Teaching and Professional Learning, Career-Technical Education and Post-High School Readiness. Guided by *Each Child, Our Future*, the Center for Teaching, Leading and Learning supports teachers and school leaders to be appropriately licensed and highly effective; improve professional learning to ensure excellent instruction in equitable, ethical and safe environments; provide educators with clear learning standards and evidence-based approaches to teaching; develop students' literacy skills across all grades and subjects; and ensure primary, secondary and career-technical school inspires students to identify paths to future success.

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Unit of Field Relations

The Ohio Department of Education's Unit of Field Relations serves as a liaison between the Department and the field. The purpose of the unit is to connect the dots among all stakeholders to ensure that, in Ohio, each child is challenged, prepared and empowered. The vision for this diverse set of offices is to provide the necessary support and resources to all stakeholders. The unit strives to provide the field with a "magical" customer service experience rooted in respectful communication while maintaining strong relationships.

The Office of Field Services and Pupil Transportation supports schools and school districts in the areas of School Finance and Transportation. Area coordinators are available to assist schools and districts in the following areas: district of residence (DRC), Education Management Information System (EMIS), excess cost, catastrophic costs (Cat Costs), tuition cost reimbursement, open enrollment, auxiliary services, transportation eligibility and costs, and administrative costs. Transportation professionals assist schools and districts with all phases of pupil transportation, including legal compliance, required reports and funding.

The Office of Nonpublic Educational Options is responsible for implementation of school voucher programs: Autism Scholarship; Cleveland Scholarship; EdChoice Scholarship; EdChoice Expansion Scholarship; and Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship. The office works with private schools to obtain and maintain their charters to operate, disseminates information about private schools that are religious but do not request a charter to operate and provides support to families who choose to home school their children.

The Office of Ohio School Sponsorship performs sponsorship activities for the community schools sponsored by the Ohio Department of Education. This includes monitoring, oversight, technical assistance and overall school improvement activities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Area Coordinators

Area coordinators are assigned to areas by county and are available to assist schools and districts with questions regarding district of residence, EMIS, excess costs, catastrophic costs, tuition cost reimbursement, open enrollment, auxiliary services and other school operation topics or issues.

AREA 1

COUNTIES SERVED: Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, Wood

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AREA 2

COUNTIES SERVED: Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby

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AREA 3

COUNTIES SERVED: Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Warren

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AREA 4

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AREA 5

COUNTIES SERVED: Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Vinton, Washington

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Area Coordinators continue on page 12.

AREA 7

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AREA 9

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Department Operations

Schools and districts may have frequent interactions with members of the Department's operations team. Several key contacts are listed below.

FISCAL

The Office of Fiscal is responsible for management of the Department's financial and accounting operations. Grants Administration manages the financial aspects of state and federal grants, claims and payments through the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) and subrecipient monitoring. The Office of Budget and School Funding is responsible for the budget management of more than \$13 billion in state and federal funds. This includes implementation of the state's school funding system and related funding streams to schools and districts across the state. The Office of Fiscal works closely with the Office of Federal Programs through joint use of the CCIP.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

The Office of Communications and Outreach facilitates the distribution of Department-generated messaging to stakeholders, responds to media inquiries and releases content through multiple social media platforms.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The chief data officer oversees the information technology side of the Ohio Educational Directory System (OEDS), safety plans, the SSID system and other priority projects, as well as directs data staff responsible for all the agency's data, providing data and information to external stakeholders and developing reports and visualizations. The Office of Data Quality and Governance is responsible for maintaining and enhancing the EMIS system, including the process used by districts to submit data, reports received back in the system and the Ohio District Data Exchange (ODDEX). The Report Card Project team manages the development and implementation of the data and technology aspects for Ohio School Report Cards, maintains policies and business rules used in the technical calculations for each measure and frequently guides stakeholders through the complexities of the data, calculations and measures.

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POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

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Department Administration

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DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT

The deputy state superintendent works closely with the Unit of Field Relations and four primary program centers to oversee all initiatives related to student supports, continuous improvement, performance and impact and teaching, leading and learning.

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CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

The work of the chief strategy officer and director of external partnerships focuses on building and maintaining relationships with stakeholders and subject matter experts to share a vision related to Ohio's strategic plan, with the ultimate goal of achieving student success.

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