

# **EMIS MANUAL**

## **Section 1.3: Community School Funding**

**Version 3.0**

July 1, 2024

## REVISION HISTORY

The revision history sections of the EMIS Manual provide a means for readers to easily navigate to the places where updates have occurred. Significant changes and updates are indicated through underlined blue text for additions and red text with strike throughs for deletions. Minor changes—such as typos, formatting, and grammar corrections or updates—are not marked.

Version	Date	Effective	Change #	Description
<u>3.0</u>	<u>07-01-24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>25-97</u>	<u>Updated Department name and logo (ODE to DEW).</u>
2.6	8/8/23	FY24	24-84	Updated to reflect updated language, processes, and law.
2.5	7/1/22	FY23	NA	Posted for FY23.
2.4	7/1/21	FY22	NA	Posted for FY22.
2.3	7/1/20	FY21	NA	Posted for FY21.
2.2	10/21/19	FY20	NA	Posted for FY20.
2.1	7/6/18	FY19	NA	Posted for FY19.
2.0	2/1/18	FY18	NA	No FY18 changes.
1.1	9/13/17	FY17	NA	Added section on Reconciliation Payments.

*Note.* This section makes several references to Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code. To find the actual language referenced, follow this link: <http://codes.ohio.gov/>.

## COMING CHANGES

The EMIS Manual is a living document, and each fiscal year’s version is updated throughout the school year. For information regarding specific known changes that may impact the elements in this section, see the appropriate EMIS Changes webpage.

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## 1.3 COMMUNITY SCHOOL FUNDING

### COMMUNITY SCHOOL DATA PULL PROCESS

#### ***Resolving FTE Adjustments***

Community schools should continuously review FTE adjustments that impact their monthly payments. All community schools have access to FTE Detail (FTED-001) and FTE Adjustment (FTED-003) reports in the Data Collector. These reports allow a community school to see the impact of all adjustments on FTEs. These reports are updated on a regular basis and provide the most up-to-date snapshot of FTEs that are being impacted.

The move to direct funding in FY22 eliminated the need for resident districts to flag community school students in SOES. However, districts should continue to place Data Quality reviews on records that may contain incorrect information. These reviews have no impact on funding.

#### ***Data Pull Process***

The Department pulls community school payment data on the 30th<sup>1</sup> of each month. This data includes any enrollment information submitted to the Department by 5 p.m. on the 29th of each month, including any FTE adjustments in place when the Department processes FTEs the evening of the 29th.

#### ***Payment FTE Detail and Adjustments Reports***

FTE Detail and Adjustment reports will be generated for each payment. Community schools will have access to those in the Data Collector. These reports will show community schools which FTE adjustments were in place at the time of the data pull that impacted the upcoming payment.

### ADJUSTING OR HOLDING COMMUNITY SCHOOL PAYMENTS

The Department has the authority to pay community schools pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3314.08(H). Pursuant to ORC 3301.0714 and Ohio Administrative Code 3301-102-06, the Department has the authority to adjust or hold payments to community schools for the reasons outlined below:

The Office of Budget and School Funding may be required to hold or adjust community school payments for a variety of reasons in order to protect public funds. These payment adjustments are outside of normal payment “Transfers and Adjustments” that take place for community schools and are reflected on the Statement of Settlement. Held payments are processed through the normal payment process, but held before disbursement. Held payments may be released at a future date or cancelled. Adjustments to payments will be reflected with Journal Voucher (JV) codes on the Statement of Settlement. Adjustments may be positive or negative, and may be reversed. The following provides information regarding when the Department may hold or adjust payments due to certain circumstances and requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> This schedule is the planned schedule. If system maintenance or other issues with the run starting on the 30th do not result in a data set that can be reliably used for a payment, then the run will be completed as soon as possible after the 30th. As EMIS submissions are based on the latest data available, any delayed run may include data after the timelines provided. The FTE reports for each payment will clearly indicate the data submission by the community school actually used for that month’s payment.

### ***Potential for Closure/Suspension***

The Department may be notified by the school's sponsor, the Office of Community Schools, and/or another Department office regarding the potential for closure/suspension.

1. Schools that are closed or suspended prior to being open and educating students are not legally able to receive current year Foundation funding.
2. Holding funds prevents the Department from potentially funding community schools not legally entitled to receive funding.
3. If the sponsor and/or another Department office notifies the Office of Budget and School Funding that a school is likely to close or be suspended, the Office of Budget and School Funding may hold payments until the school has opened and educated students in the current fiscal year and is therefore entitled to current fiscal year Foundation funding.
  - a. If the school does close, the payment may be cancelled entirely.
  - b. If the school does legally open, the payment may be released.

### ***Less than 25 Students Enrolled at the Beginning of the School Year***

Community schools are not allowed to open until at least 25 students are enrolled at the same time during the school calendar year. If the Department doesn't receive assurances from the sponsor of at least 25 students being enrolled and reported in EMIS and/or if the Department has reason to believe that the assurances are not correct, payments may be held until enrollment requirements are verified.

### ***Non-Compliance with Department Regulations or Requirements***

The Office of Budget and School Funding may hold or adjust funds if a community school is in non-compliance with Department regulations or requirements. Examples of non-compliance include but are not limited to:

- Failure to comply with the FTE Review process
- Failure to comply with EMIS reporting requirements and standards
- Failure to comply with ODDEX (SOES and SCR) records review requirements and standards

### ***Illegal or Fraudulent Activity***

The Office of Budget and School Funding may also hold payments if it has reason to believe that a community school is illegally operating in anyway in order to protect public funds.

### ***Course of Practice***

This reflects the long-standing standard operating practice of the Office of Budget and School Funding.

## **RECONCILIATION PAYMENTS**

Following the close of the EMIS collection, the Department of Education and Workforce will run at least one reconciliation payment, commonly referred to as Final Payments (Final #1, Final #2, etc.). These adjustments will account for changes made by reporting entities between the last scheduled payment in June and the close of the EMIS collection. Adjustments may also reflect any EMIS appeals and final determinations made under Revised Code §3314.08(K).

If the Department identifies the school is owed money – it will be paid in a single payment.

If the Department identifies a reduction in the calculated payment, the following logic will be used:

- If the repayment amount is less than or equal to \$5,000, then the repayment is deducted in a single payment.
- If the repayment amount is less than or equal to \$10,000 and the final amount is greater than \$1,000,000, then the repayment is deducted in a single payment.
- If the repayment amount is greater than \$5,000 and the final amount is less than \$1,000,000, then the repayment is deducted over 10 months.
- If the repayment amount is greater than \$10,000 and the final amount is greater than \$1,000,000, then the repayment is deducted over 10 months.
- If the repayment amount is greater than 4.0% of the final amount, then the repayment is deducted over 22 months.

The superintendent may, at the request of the school, consider and approve a longer repayment term. Such an extension will come with additional requirements.