

ED STEPS



A process of increased support and collaboration to connect educational entities with funding suited to their students' unique academic needs.

The Education Department System of Tiered E-Plans and Supports (ED STEPS) is a system that enables educational entities to efficiently and effectively assess needs, plan, and leverage funds to prepare students for a successful future.

As part of the ED STEPS project, the One Needs Assessment and One Plan have been developed to assist with creating quality improvement plans. The One Funding Application combines the actions from the One Plan into a funding application.

PIONEERS IN IMPROVEMENT

Ohio was a pioneer in the development of the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) that is used throughout the nation.

The ED STEPS system will replace the CCIP, and we hope will once again serve as a nationwide model.



HISTORY AND PILOT PROGRAM

The idea for the ED STEPS Project came from over four years of educator and administrator feedback, including a comprehensive analysis of the CCIP, user interviews, and input from an advisory group.

The Department partnered with organizations to pilot the ED STEPS three-year planning process. Pilot cohort members helped develop and implement the three-year plan review and approval process and provide feedback to the ED STEPS Team and outside contractors on the various system components, functionality, and design.



COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

ED STEPS will help the Department provide more consistent communication and greater support that educational entities want.

ED STEPS COMPONENTS

CREATED BY AND FOR END-USERS

01

DASHBOARD

The landing site for all parts of the system.

02

ONE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Data driven; pre-planning system designed to assist education entities in evaluating needs to develop a three-year plan.

03

ONE PLAN

Comprehensive improvement plan that captures an educational entity needs over a three-year period.

04

ONE FUNDING APPLICATION

An electronic grant and financial system which allows education entities to apply for various grants, while also making connections back to their One Plan.

OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS



A HOLISTIC APPROACH

ED STEPS will improve the user experience, reduce the time and resources the Department and educational entities devote to compliance activities, promote cross-office and program support, remove barriers and duplication, and offer tools to help districts think more holistically about resource allocation.



BREAKING DOWN SILOS

Breaking down silos and fostering collaboration will improve communication on educational entity needs, plan, and funding opportunities.



FUND THE PLAN

The Department is shifting the approach to “fund the plan, not plan to fund,” standardizing timelines and adopting a 3-year planning cycle with annual funding applications.