

Tutor Ohio Kids 2024-2025 Annual Report



September 2025



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

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Executive Summary

The 2024-2025 academic year marked the third year of implementation for the Tutor Ohio Kids program, established under House Bill 583 of the 134th General Assembly and led by the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESC of Central Ohio). The program continued to build and sustain a statewide infrastructure for high-impact tutoring, maintaining consistent leadership and cross-departmental collaboration. Technical assistance was extended to nine regional educational service centers to ensure alignment and support across the state. The program's primary focus this year was on helping public and chartered nonpublic schools develop, expand, or refine their tutoring programs. Each educational service center (ESC) partner delivered the High Impact Consultancy Series, and monthly meetings facilitated shared learning and coordination. Tutors were equipped with toolkits and content resources and received training through a continued partnership with Saga Education. Schools also received individualized coaching to support scheduling, grouping, and instructional planning.

Professional development remained a cornerstone of the program, with 12 statewide learning events conducted. Participating schools were trained on the ten principles of high-impact tutoring, based on research from the National Student Support Accelerator, with an emphasis on staffing, budgeting, and scheduling. In terms of reach, 195 tutors were ready for deployment, and 18 were actively placed in eight schools. These tutors served 312 students through 2,921 tutoring sessions conducted between November and March. However, the program's reach was constrained by the March 28, 2025, announcement from the U.S. Department of Education pausing late liquidation of COVID relief funds, which impacted funding and limited the tutoring window.

Despite these challenges, the program demonstrated strong outcomes. All participating schools reported academic growth for participating students. Tutors reported that the provided resources enhanced their instructional delivery, and the program's emphasis on relationship-building contributed to student engagement. Stakeholder satisfaction remained high, with 80% of schools expressing satisfaction and many returning for continued participation. However, some schools had tutors assigned but reported no students served, indicating logistical or engagement barriers. Looking ahead, the program's long-term sustainability will depend on securing alternative funding sources and supporting districts in budget planning. Overall, Tutor Ohio Kids continues to demonstrate strong infrastructure, professional development, and academic impact, but must address funding, access, and utilization challenges to fully realize its statewide potential.

Summary of Findings

Program Infrastructure and Focus

Since the enactment of House Bill 583 in 2022, the ESC of Central Ohio has led the development and ongoing enhancement of a statewide infrastructure to support the Tutor Ohio Kids initiative. This work has been anchored by consistent leadership, including Director Cindy Eldridge and Project Manager Melanie McGue, and supported by key departments such as communications, human resources, technology, and finance. In collaboration with nine regional educational service centers, the ESC of Central Ohio has provided technical assistance to ensure alignment and capacity-building across the state.

Throughout the 2024–2025 academic year, the program prioritized supporting public and chartered nonpublic schools in designing, expanding, and refining their tutoring programs. Each ESC partner delivered the High Impact Consultancy Series, tailored to meet the unique needs of their regional schools. To ensure high-quality implementation, in-person tutors were equipped with Tutor Toolkits and instructional content aligned with evidence-based practices. Ongoing professional learning was supported through a continued partnership with Saga Education, which provided training focused on the Science of Reading, technology integration, and relationship-building strategies.

ESC partnerships were further strengthened through monthly collaboration meetings, which facilitated shared learning and strategic planning. With a strong pool of available tutors across most regions, the program emphasized deepening district engagement and enhancing local capacity to implement high-impact tutoring. Each ESC committed to delivering at least one professional development series, resulting in a total of twelve professional learning events held statewide.

In addition to group training, schools received individualized coaching to support the development of customized tutoring models. Educational service centers worked closely with districts to design effective tutor schedules, student groupings, and content delivery strategies, ensuring that tutoring was both responsive and impactful.

Data Collection

2022-2025 TREND DATA

Table 1 includes trend data collected from September 2022 through March 2025. Over the three-year period, the Tutor Ohio Kids program demonstrated steady growth in tutor readiness and student engagement. The number of tutors ready for deployment increased significantly from 67 in 2022–2023 to 195 in 2024–2025, reflecting enhanced recruitment and onboarding efforts.

The number of participating school districts and chartered nonpublic schools remained relatively stable, with 11 districts and schools engaged in 2023–2024 and seven in 2024–2025. Student reach remained consistent, with 312 students served in 2024–2025, following 385 the previous year. Notably, the program delivered 2,921 tutoring sessions in 2024–2025—the first year this metric was formally tracked—demonstrating a strong commitment to providing sustained, high-impact academic support.

TABLE 1

| | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Number of tutors ready to be deployed | 67 | 156 | 195 |
| Number of tutors actively tutoring students | 0 | 22 | 18 |
| Number of participating school districts & chartered non-public schools | 0 | 11 | 7 |
| Number of students served | 0 | 385 | 312 |
| Number of tutoring sessions | Not Collected | Not Collected | 2,921 |

2024-2025 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DATA

Per Appendix B of the contract with the ESC of Central Ohio, each participating educational service center identified a lead to support implementation, provide targeted professional development, and technical assistance. The regional leads participated in the implementation of the high-impact tutoring implementation workshop series. During the 2024–2025 academic year, the program prioritized expanding the capacity of schools to deliver high-dosage tutoring, guided by research from the National Student Support Accelerator. Participating public and chartered nonpublic schools engaged in professional development and coaching that emphasized ten essential principles for achieving academic impact. These sessions also addressed key operational areas, including staffing, budgeting, and scheduling.

Legislation does not provide funding to pay the tutors, placing that expectation on the public and chartered nonpublic schools. Educational service centers that participated in the professional learning series (Table 2) but did not have school districts and chartered nonpublic schools participating in the Tutor Ohio Kids program (Table 3) reported lack of

funding to pay for tutors. Therefore, professional learning was used to inform how to establish local tutoring opportunities.

The following public and chartered nonpublic schools actively participated in High Impact Tutoring professional learning during the year.

TABLE 2

| Educational Service Center | Public and Chartered Nonpublic Schools Served |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Athens-Meigs ESC | Alexander Local Schools Nelsonville-York City Schools |
| Butler County ESC | Fairfield City Schools |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Olentangy Local Schools Chillicothe City Schools Columbus City Schools |
| ESC of Lake Erie West | Rosford Exempted Village Schools Toledo Public Schools Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School and Academy Maumee Valley Country Day School |
| ESC of Northeast Ohio | Orange City Schools |
| Hancock County ESC | St. Michael’s School (Findlay) |
| Hamilton County ESC | Winton Woods City Schools Cincinnati Public Schools Three Rivers Local Schools |
| Licking Regional ESC | Newark City Schools |
| North Central Ohio ESC | River Valley Local Schools |
| Wood County ESC | Northwood Local Schools |

2024-2025 PROGRAM DELIVERY DATA

During the 2024–2025 school year, seven school districts and chartered nonpublic schools participated in the Tutor Ohio Kids tutoring program. Tutoring services launched in November and continued through March 28. On that date, the U.S. Department of Education informed state education agencies that late liquidation requests for federal COVID relief funds would no longer be honored which directly affected the program’s funding timeline.

TABLE 3

| Educational Service Center | School District or Chartered Nonpublic School | Building | Grade Bands Served | Total Tutors Deployed | Total or Range of Students Served* | Delivery Method |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Athen-Meigs ESC | Federal Hocking Local Schools | Federal Hocking Middle School | 7-8 | 1 | 1 | Online |
| ESC of Northeast Ohio | Lake Catholic High School | Lake Catholic High School | 9-12 | 1 | 21-45 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Legacy Academy of Excellence | Legacy Academy of Excellence | K-8 | 2 | 0-66 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Fairfield Elementary | K-4 | 1 | 6 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Heritage Elementary | K-4 | 1 | 19-25 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Pickerington Elementary | PK-4 | 1 | 6-17 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Toll Gate Elementary | K-4 | 1 | 20-23 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Tussing Elementary | K-4 | 1 | 17-31 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Pickerington Local Schools | Violet Elementary | K-4 | 1 | 8 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | The Graham Family Schools | GEMS | K-8 | 1 | 14-62 | In Person |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Westside Christian School | Westside Christian School | K-4 | 3 | 0-20 | In Person and Online |
| ESC of Central Ohio | Whitehall Local Schools | Whitehall Yearling High School | 9-12 | 4 | 0-8 | Online |

*The range captures the number of students receiving tutoring beginning in November through March. For example, a range of 0-66 indicates that the program had not yet launched in November (0 students served) through the height of full program implementation (66 students served).

Program Effectiveness

REACH AND PARTICIPATION

- 195 tutors were ready for deployment in 2024–2025, up from 156 the previous year.
- 18 tutors actively served students across seven school districts and chartered nonpublic schools.
- 312 students received tutoring through 2,921 sessions between November and March.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

- Tutors were supported with toolkits and content resources, which they reported as helpful in delivering effective instruction.
- The program maintained a strong emphasis on relationship-building, a key factor in student engagement and success.

STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

- 80% of schools reported satisfaction with the Tutor Ohio Kids program.
- Continued participation from returning schools suggests growing trust and perceived value.
- Tutors expressed appreciation for the resources and training provided.

Summary of Findings

While limited in scale, the Tutor Ohio Kids program built on three years of strategic growth and statewide collaboration to provide effective tutoring services to participating public and chartered nonpublic schools during the 2024–2025 academic year. The program increased tutor readiness and delivered high-quality professional development aligned with national best practices. With 195 tutors prepared for deployment and 2,921 tutoring sessions delivered to 362 students, the program showed measurable reach and engagement. The program’s emphasis on relationship-building further contributed to student success and engagement. Stakeholder satisfaction remained high, with 80% of schools expressing positive feedback and many returning for continued participation. Addressing funding sustainability, regional access, and tutor utilization will be key to maximizing the program’s long-term impact and ensuring equitable access to high-impact tutoring across Ohio.