

ODE ITC Call – 11/1/2021

Notes provided by Naja Bailey (META) and Catherine Wright (NEONET)

**ODE EMIS Training Sessions** – The next round of ODE EMIS training sessions is coming up the week of November 15-19, 2021. Please register via OH|ID > Training & Registration > STARS

**FY21G Grad Appeals** – The deadline to request an appeal closed last Friday, and ODE’s Office of Data Quality is now working through those appeals. If districts requested an appeal to update their “G” data, once their appeal is approved, the collection will reopen in the Data Collector, and the deadline to submit will be November 12, 2021.

**FY22S Gifted Data Reporting** – Later this week, ODE will release updates to 1TRD and AODE to start collecting Gifted (GG) records. It is very important for districts to get that data updated. Because of a change in the new funding model, “Gifted Identified” is now part of the funding formula, and the number of students Identified as Gifted will make a difference in how much funding districts receive. Gifted (GG) data will be collected all year now. Submit whatever you have, even if students were Identified in prior years. In Ohio, “Once Identified, Always Identified,” so even if their Identified Date is in a prior year, getting that submitted by where they are enrolled right now is important. *Gifted Funding is based on the number of Gifted Identified students in your district.*

“Gifted Identified Date” is used for the calculation of FTE. However, if a student was Identified in a prior year, whether it was March or April last year doesn’t make a difference for payment. As long as you report that they are Identified Gifted for this school year, as of the date they start generating FTE, they’re going to generate Gifted FTE as well. The Gifted ID Date is critical to get accurate for students newly Identified this year, because they will general Gifted FTE as of the first of the month in which they’re Identified. If you are trying to update student Identified information from a prior year that didn’t get reported, the month doesn’t really matter. Also, all 7 categories of Gifted Identified are treated equally, which Area of Giftedness doesn’t matter, and the number of gifted areas doesn’t matter, 1 or 7 of any of the areas will get the same FTE.

ODE has done most of the coding on the back end to calculate Gifted FTE for each FS/FD they have, because just like other funding, that is where the data comes from. It’s a little more complicated with Gifted because it is not on the FS or FD, so ODE has created a table in the background. They are currently working on reports (which will be out as soon as possible) but, this requires updates to the FTE Detail reports to show what is relevant for each row to see who is/is not getting Gifted credit. There will not be reports yet this week, but by the time they get to paying on this data, districts should be able to see FTE for who counts as Gifted. ODE encourages everyone to work on that Gifted Identified data this week and get it submitted.

**Q:** This is going to be a new column on the FTE Detail report? Has ODE’s Gifted office communicated this to the Gifted Coordinators?

**A:** Yes, this will be a new column on the existing FTE Detail reports. I doubt it; their info is just around getting students ID’d and entered in your SIS. The mechanics of how it is being added to the payments is not something they’ll be involved in. They focus on getting the data in more than anything.

**Gifted Payments** – A little bit about how Gifted Data will flow. Because ODE knew that this GG data was not going to be available for all of the initial windows, they designed the code to pull GG from FY21.

Currently, (you can't see it yet) when ODE runs, they look up students reported in the same district to see what was reported for them at yearend. Since "Once Identified, Always Identified" is the rule, it should work well for continuing students, but it will not pick up students who are newly Identified this year or were newly enrolled in your district and Identified in a different district in a prior year. Using FY21 data is a crutch for the School Finance team to get funding files to start running calculations, so they could use real data vs. fake data. The goal is for payments to start in December, but ODE is not sure if that will be in December, January, or later because there is a lot of work to be done. When they actually go to live data, there's a real good chance the GG data used will be FY21 Gifted status of each student, but the goal is to move to FY22 ASAP, and they will just have to change a pointer in the code. They expect to use 1TRD and AODE data for payments (normally, they'd be using them for payments starting about this week for Trad and JVS). Because new formulas are not ready, they aren't doing that yet, and they're just rolling up data from last year.

ODE is concerned that districts aren't paying attention to enrollment numbers (i.e., Special Ed, Gifted, English Learner, Economic Disadvantage, all those pieces) because there haven't been any alerts coming out from ODE about no payments due to no data (e.g., your district is not getting Special Ed funding because you haven't submitted any Special Ed data yet). It is pretty important for districts to get data in since there are just about 6-7 weeks left (minus holidays coming up) for Initial enrollment collections. Getting data submitted is the important first step, and some districts still have not submitted at all or haven't submitted in the past 4 weeks. Encourage all districts to look at their enrollment reports and FCC reports, making sure all kids are included even if they aren't getting a payment report based on this year's data yet. If their FCC report is correct, it will help make sure their payment is correct. Look at FTE Adjustment reports for Special Ed FTE adjustments due to no IEPs or incorrect IEP dates; all those funding-related things they normally do this time of year, they still need to do. This 1TRD/AODE data STILL matters even if they don't see it on an actual payment report before the data is finalized. Once 2TRD opens, ODE will begin using that data, so it is not one & done for payments; but it will be one & done for FCC (October 31), Casino counts (October 8) and for grad data, and March CTE Follow-up reporting (ODE uses 1TRD data to see if the students are still enrolled in any district). ODE's goal is to have payments with new formula and new data in December. Don't know as of today if that is going to happen or not, but 1TRD data will eventually find its way into the payments (whether it happens in December or January), so make sure to get it in.

**Q:** When you said you'll be pulling GG from FY21 and eventually switch to FY22, will that be the same for all districts?

**A:** Correct that will be for the whole state. We will let districts know when we add that column for the Gifted piece to the FTE Detail report, and also when we switch from FY21 to FY22 data because you will see the difference.

**Q:** For Casino Count, is there a report to verify or just look at the preview?

**A:** There is no report for that. Just verify student County of Residence and who is enrolled by using the preview files. That is all that's used in that calculation. Use Preview report and sort by County, the vast majority of your students should have the same county, but you may have some Open Enrolled kids with a different county. Just be sure they are correct.

**Q:** You listed the groups you are concerned about (EL, SPED, Gifted, Casino, Econ Disadv)

**A:** Basically, all demographic attributes on the FTE Detail report matters. The other thing that is different on the new funding system is the total amount of CTE courses the student is in and approved for makes a difference in their base funding. That first "L" window closes in January for most of the data

used in CTE FTE reports. We're working on adding a CTE FTE that is cumulative across courses to be added to the FTE Detail report also.

**CTE March Follow-up Reporting** – ODE is trying to get those processes automated and reached some major milestones in October. ODE plans (before the end of November) to have the lists of students expected to be on March files for follow-up reporting. That means they will probably do the appeal window earlier than last year for who is/is not in the March file and who was reported as Concentrator. That was done in January last year, but they're planning on Fall this year. Enrollment in Initial "S" window is the key, showing if they are enrolled this year or if they will feed into March files. It is important to review as soon as that comes out to see who the March follow-up students are going to be. ODE wants to have the March file done before they set the dates for the appeal window. This is just a heads-up that this will be coming out sometime this fall as opposed to January this year.

**Q:** Last year, we had issues with some students caused by us providing data appeals to "S" reporting. "S" closed, then we provided appeal file that was approved/submitted before March started. It looked like some were generated based on files from before we submitted appeal data. So, which file is supposed to be used when you generate the March list, the appealed file?

**A:** One of the big milestones we've reached is that we're working on automating the building of those March files. For at least the past 8-9 years, the files were constructed manually. Now we have tables to recreate the March files every day during the first half of the school year. So, anything that changes in your 1TRD submission (e.g., a WD override or starting to enroll a student who was a dropout but showed up again) will be reflected. So, it should always be the latest data being used and will be tied in with grad data also (which wasn't done before). Any WD reason used for Grad cohorts will also be used for that district's March status, as for whether they are included or not. This should allow for earlier March files and make it easier to see issues since we know that is the latest data, and if it changes, you should see it the next day.

**FY22S Federal Child Count** – Again, coming up at the close of Initial "S" is the finalization of FCC Level 2 reports, so districts should be working on those. EMIS Alliance sessions are coming up soon.

**Q:** Aaron Rausch talked about funding at the OAEP Conference and mentioned using Bookkeeper Position Code from FY18 to determine who EMIS Coordinators are. Should districts change EMIS Coordinator Position Codes to Bookkeeper?

**A:** No, absolutely not. Basically, a work group was formed to put the model together for legislature to adopt. For possible choices, they took their best shot for a simulation that made sense to them. We don't know if this budget model will live beyond 2 years. At this point, it says it is just for this biennium, so legislature will need to look at it again. If they do keep it, will they change it from FY18? It is not only that EMIS Coordinators were not reported as Bookkeepers, but that the data used is statewide FY18 data. That number just got plugged in and is not really what is reported. If that is continued, there may be a change for reporting EMIS Coordinators, but for now, there is no change to what's being done.

**Q:** We got an email about PEBT submission training tomorrow, and it mentioned that ODE would be sending a communication out.

**A:** ODE EMIS has not received any request to send this training info out.

### **Upcoming schedule**

**ODE ITC Call** – Monday, November 15, 2021

No Change Call this month.