



**THE HEART
OF IT ALL™**

Ohio.org

OFFICE OF GRADUATE SUCCESS



Graham Wood
Administrator



Kayla Mack
Education Program Specialist



Michelle Washington
*Business & Education
Program Specialist*



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*Graduation and College in
High School Administrator*



Jenny Russell
Program Administrator



Sara Watson
Grants Manager



Dennis Haft
*Career Pathways
Coordinator*



Hearcel Craig, Jr
*School Counseling
Program Specialist*



Connor Rigney
*Industry-Recognized Credentials
Program Specialist*



Sarah Redick
STEM Program Specialist

OFFICE OF GRADUATE SUCCESS

Dedicated to creating preK-12 linkages to postsecondary and work so that each child has an opportunity to pursue a fulfilling post-high school path.

5 Core Functions



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Students must satisfy all three areas:



1. Course Requirements



2. Demonstration of Competency



3. Demonstration of Readiness

WHY GRADUATION PLANS?

Organization for
graduation
requirements

Pathways *through*
graduation

Identification of
students on and
off track

Data support

CAREER PATHWAY CASE STUDIES

- Mentor High School
- North Union Local School District
- Western Local School District



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

District & Community Profile

- Village of Richwood, Union County, Ohio
- Central Ohio Region
- 2,222 population in village during 2020 census
- Area rich in agriculture
- 1,500 students in the school district



NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Career Pathways

- Agri-Science
- Business & Administrative Services
- College Credit Plus
- Engineering
- Information Technology
- Performing Arts
- Spanish
- Pre-Nursing
- Visual Arts
- Tri-Rivers Career Center



Graduation Requirements Office Hours

- Friday's biweekly from 9:30-10:30 am
- Register here for: [Graduation Requirements Office Hours](#)
- Remainder of Office Hours:
 - Friday, April 18- General Graduation Office Hour | 9:30-10:30 a.m.
 - Friday, May 2- Accountability & Report Card | 9:30-10:30 a.m.
 - Friday, May 16- General Graduation Office Hour | 9:30-10:30 a.m



PATHWAYS & INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM

Waiver Program that allows district to institute innovative programs that they would otherwise be prohibited from doing.



Innovative Education Pilot Programs

Guidance and Instructions for Submitting Exemption Requests for the 2025-2026 School Year

Ohio is excited about the opportunity to support Ohio school districts, educational service centers and nonpublic schools that are interested in exploring innovative learning approaches. The intention of the exemption is to provide flexibility to schools to use innovative, and yet still rigorous, instructional approaches that may be more compatible with the educational programs or objectives of the applicants. If approved, an exemption allows the district, school or ESC to implement the innovative instructional approaches outlined in the application.

The application window is March 30 through May 16. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m.

Please email IEPP@education.ohio.gov with questions about the program.

RESOURCES

» [OAC 3301-46-01](#)

» [Application and Evaluation Rubric](#) 

[Innovative Education Pilot Programs | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#)



APPLICATION PROCESS

IEPP Application

- Cover page
- Summary of project: No more than five pages
- Written consent of the teachers' employee representative (if applicable)



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

CREDENTIALING PATHWAY TOOLKITS

- Credentials for all, not just for graduation purposes.
- Lead to real employment after graduation.
- Has been implemented in traditional High Schools.
- Linked to many In-Demand occupations.
- This is just the beginning!
- [Credentialing-Toolkits](#)



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

Explore Career Fields



[Industry-Recognized Credentials by Career Field](#)

Credential Pathway: Drone Certification

To help connect students with career-focused learning and experiences, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has created credentialing pathways that can be implemented within traditional schools. The drone certification credentialing pathway provides an opportunity for students to prepare themselves for a career after graduation by offering the student hands-on experience, industry knowledge and training, while also meeting graduation requirements along the way. The information in the toolkit provides schools with the specific pathway, resources of how to implement the pathway, and connection to experts in the field of Transportation and Environmental Systems or other Fields that incorporate drone technology.

Credential Name - Point Value - (EMIS Code)

- Federal Aviation Administration Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification – 6 points (CG65) *
- Small Unmanned Safety Institute Certification Level 1 – 6 points (CR67) *

How to Earn:

Students will test online to pass both credentials. Classes can be taught in person or online, and these credentials can be embedded into many types of classes such as business, communication, arts and agriculture.

Jobs and Wages:

If students complete these two courses and in addition:

Small Unmanned Safety Institute Certificate 2: 6 points (not yet on the credential list)

Visual Line of Site Systems Operations- Flight Training: 6 points (CR68) *

Visual Line of Site Systems Operations- Ground School: 6 points (CR69) *

Students will qualify for positions that pay \$50,000 with the five total classes completed.

Implementation Needs:

- Annual Curriculum License (for FAA Part 107 and Safety Level 1) may apply
- Digital textbooks and testing exams approximately – \$189 per student
- FAA Part 107 Certification Test \$175 per student
- Drone Kits – \$500 per kit

Teachers can receive training from various train the trainer opportunities and from agencies such as the [the PAST Foundation](#).

Credential Funding:

Reimbursement is available through EMIS for the cost of the test when student passes credentialing exam – please [visit the webpage](#) for more details.

**Innovative Workforce Incentive Program (IWIP)*

[IWIP Credentials](#) qualify for additional funding. Visit the webpage for the complete list.

Best Practices:

Sandusky High School – Brad Agee - bagee@scsbluestreaks.net

Dublin High School – Robert ‘Bo’ Cunningham - cunningham_robert@dublinschools.net

Mentor High School – Dr. Joe Glavan - jglavan@mentorschools.org



CAREER READINESS MEET-UPS

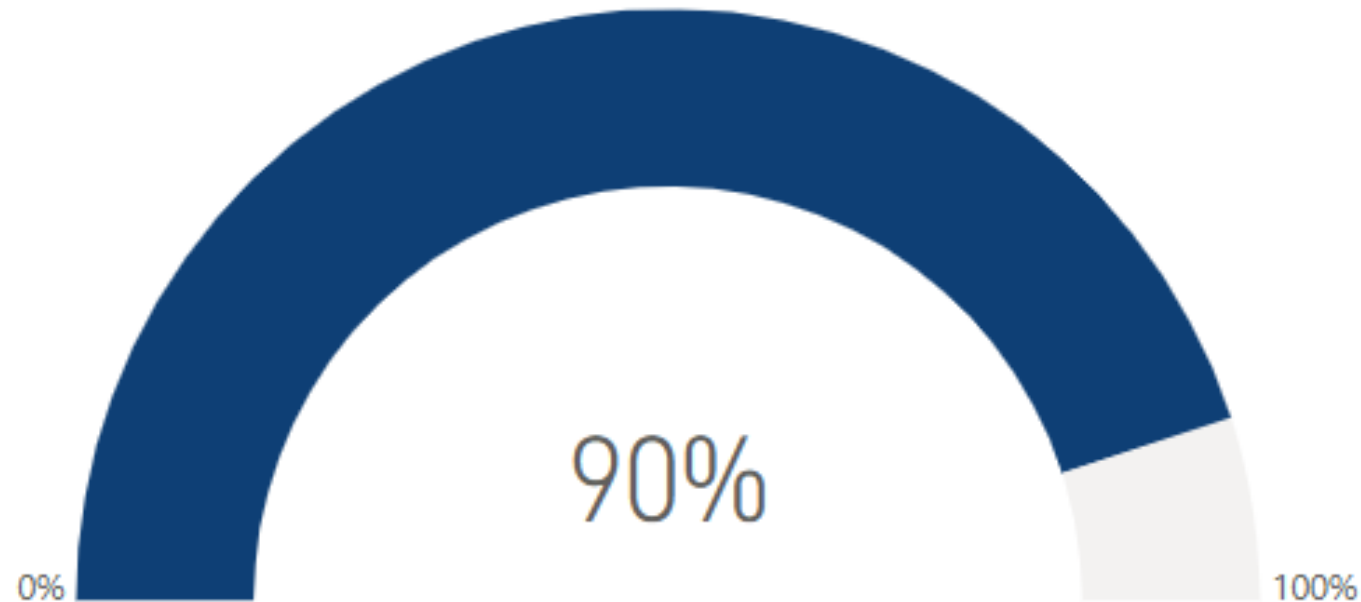
2nd Tuesday of each month from 2:30-3:30 PM.



BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCILS

STATE OF COUNCILS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

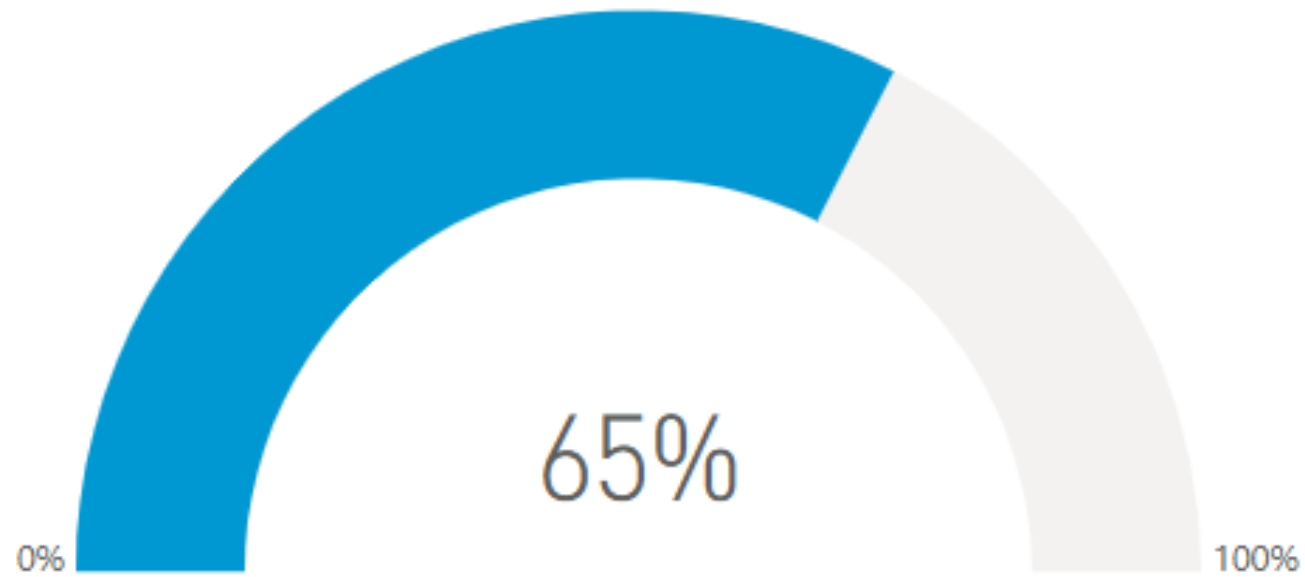
% of BACs Offering Career Exploration for Students in School Year 2024-25



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

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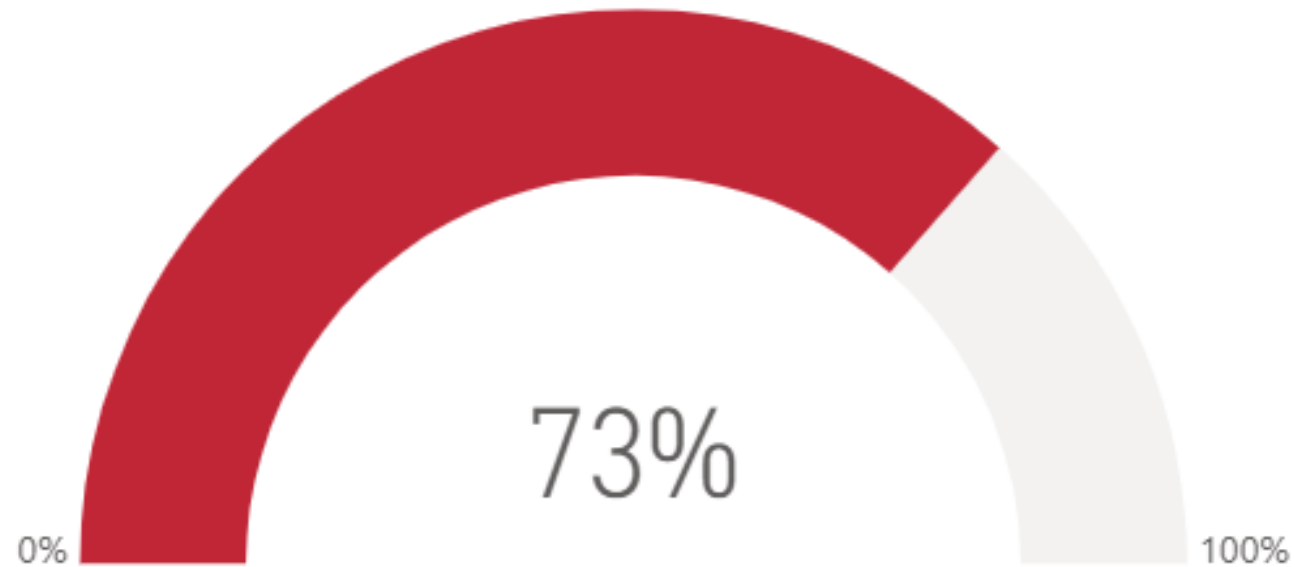
% of BACs Offering Professional Development for Educators in School Year 2024-25



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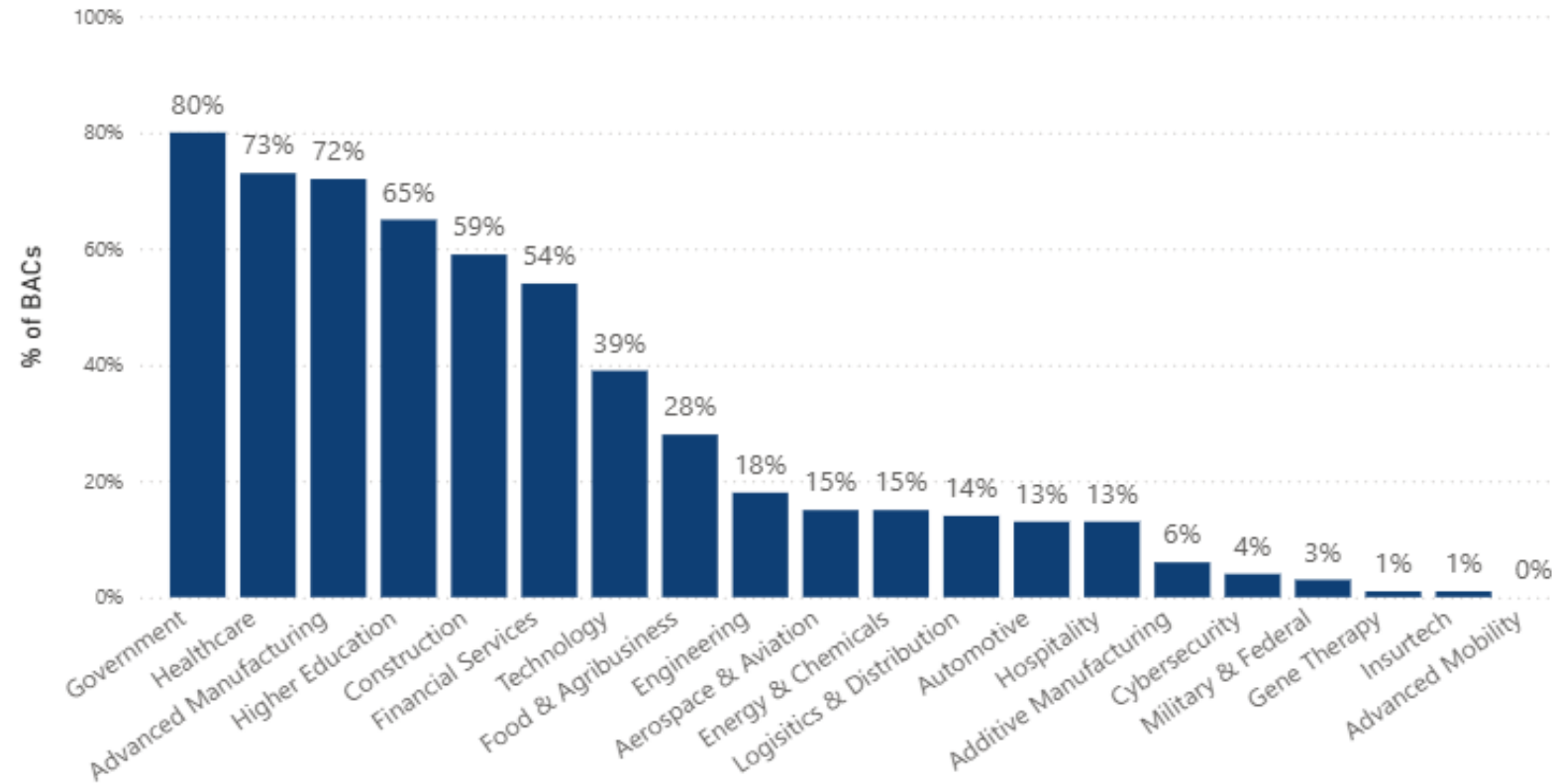
% of BACs Offering Work-based Learning for Students in School Year 2024-25



**Department of
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STATE OF COUNCILS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

Industry Representation on BACs, School Year 2024-25



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCILS UPDATES

- Office Hours
- Business Advisory Council Townhall – July 21
- Business Advisory Council ORC 3303.02 Recommendations
- Technical Support



CAREER ADVISING

CAREER ADVISING

[Ohio Revised Code: 3313.6020](#)



Middle Grade
Academic and
Career Awareness
Resources



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

CORE TENETS OF CAREER ADVISING POLICIES

Advising for students grades 6-12

Meaningful
advising for students
about their career
goals is the foundation
of success

Career Connections is
Ohio's branding for
Career Development
and Advising

No matter
a student's age,
there are still phases
of Career Development
(i.e., the framework)



STATE SUPPORTS FOR CAREER ADVISING

Guidance and Resources

- Career Advising Toolkit - templates, planning guides, implementation strategy supports.
- Career Connections Framework
- CTE Middle Grade Career Connections
- InfOhio Open Space – Career Connections Collection
- OhioMeansJobs K-12

Professional Development

- Career advising course – MyOhio
- InfOhio C.L.E.O

Community

- Career Readiness Leaders Meet-up and OpenSpace group
- School Counselors Meet-up

INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

WHAT IS AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL?

- A verification of a student's qualification or competence.
- Third party vendors issue these credentials to students.
- IRCs on our list are valued in the labor market as a validation of knowledge and skill.
- Allow students to easily make the transition between school and the workforce through fulfilling a graduation requirement.

IRC GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Points system:

- Each credential is assigned a point value.
- A student must earn twelve points from one career field to fulfill the IRC graduation requirement

CREDENTIAL REIMBURSEMENT

STANDARD REIMBURSEMENT

- \$5.5 Million appropriation
- Reimburses school districts for testing costs.

INNOVATIVE WORKFORCE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

- \$10.5 Million appropriation
- Schools paid an incentive of \$1,250 per credential earned from the IWIP list.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

SCHOOL COUNSELOR SUPPORTS

- **School Counselor Updates Subscription:** Please visit [Ohio Department of Education](#) and Workforce [Subscriptions](#) to [register and sign up](#) to receive our “*School Counselor Updates*”
- **Recorded Sessions of School Counselor Meetups:** [School Counselor Meetups | Ohio Department of Education](#)
- **School Counselor Meetups:** Please [sign up](#) to attend our 2024-2025 School Counselor Meetups.



HISTORY OF SCHOOL COUNSELOR MEETUPS

- Partner with Ohio School Counselor Association (OSCA) to put on these meetups since their inception in 2021!
- Over 100 attendees each meetup!
- School counselors are typical attendees – all are welcome!

PAST SCHOOL COUNSELOR TOPICS

- FAFSA
- Creative Ways to Reach Your Youngest Learners
- Career Exploration for Elementary Schools
- School Counselors as Family Engagement Leaders
- College Credit Plus
- & more!

STEM EDUCATION

STEM EDUCATION

The Department of Education and Workforce supports schools in providing high-quality STEM education to students in three ways:

- School designation – 61 Ohio schools have STEM (or STEAM) designation
- Guidance and support for schoolwide STEM practices
- Highlighting pathways to success in STEM careers

<https://tinyurl.com/ODEWSTEM>

THANK YOU!!

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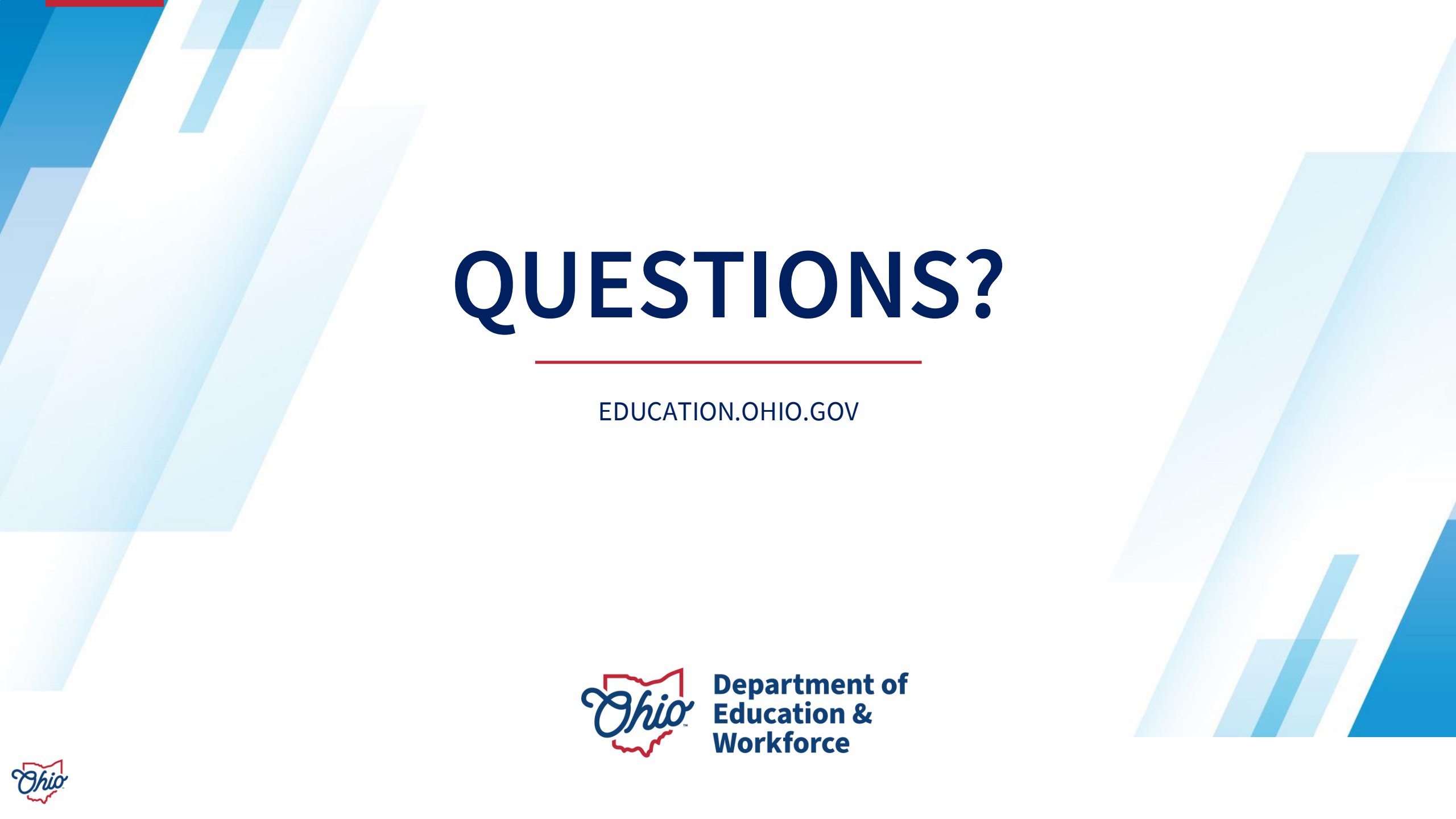
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QUESTIONS?

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