



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Charter School Directors
Regional Educational Service Center Directors
School Business Officials

FROM: Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer

DATE: July 22, 2021

SUBJECT: 2020-21 Education Financial System

The Education Financial System (EFS) is now open for filing 2020-21 data with the Connecticut State Department of Education.

The EFS is accessible via our data collection portal at <https://csde.ct.gov>. The EFS User Guide and additional information are available on the EFS Web site at <http://portal.ct.gov/SDE-EFS>. Please refer to the attachment for updates to EFS reporting requirements.

User logins and roles for EFS for each local education agency (LEA) are assigned in Directory Manager (DM) by your district's LEA Security Manager (a list of whom is included on the [DM Help Site](#)). Help with forgotten login information is available at <http://sdeportal.ct.gov/portaluser>. Please note the following role assignments:

- EFS LEA Writer is required to enter data in the system.
- EFS LEA Reader is optional and allows the user to review data but not make entries.
- EFS LEA Certifier must be assigned to the Superintendent of Schools for local and regional school districts, and the Director for other LEAs.

The statutory deadline for filing is September 1. Be reminded that data is not final until certified by the Superintendent/Director. Pursuant to Section 10-227 of the Connecticut General Statutes, a **penalty of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000 may be assessed if your district fails to comply with this deadline.**

Please e-mail all questions to the general EFS mailbox at SDE.efs@ct.gov. Thank you.

KD:dt

Attachment

cc: Roger Persson, Chief of Fiscal/Administrative Services

Attachment
July 22, 2021
2020-21 Education Financial System (EFS)

The following are highlights of updates affecting 2020-21 EFS reporting. All changes are listed in the EFS User Guide Section 7.2.

As previously announced, the Prepayment Grants System has been replaced with the eGrants Management System (eGMS) beginning with 2020-21 grant reporting. However, at this time we do not expect the final expenditure reporting features of eGMS to be available until the first week of August. Once activated, final grant expenditures reported in eGMS will be available for import to the EFS federal, state and private/miscellaneous funding schedules similar to the process for importing ED141 X001-line expenditures in prior years. Business Officials will be notified when the reporting features are available.

As we noted for 2019-20 EFS reporting, we have eliminated the distinction between “major” and “minor” school construction. Districts must continue to report all school construction expenditure data on the EFS “Expenditures for Land, Buildings, Capital Construction and Debt Service Schedule”. EFS Function Code 4XX1 “Minor School Construction” and EFS Funding Source Code 9 “Other Local Funds - School Construction Progress Payment Grant for Minor Remodeling” are no longer available for 2020-21 reporting. (However, their use continues to be allowed for 2019-20, although we reclassified these as major school construction for state and federal expenditure reporting.)

Changes have been made to the “Expenditures for Land, Buildings, Capital Construction and Debt Service Schedule” to streamline and clarify the schedule. The changes also require districts to report the source of funds for current school construction expenditures: current funds (including state progress payments) or from borrowing (bonding or anticipated bonding).

The “Claim for Exceeding Statutory School Year Schedule” for local and regional school districts has been re-activated for 2020-21. (This was inactive for 2019-20 due to impacts of COVID-19). This schedule is used to report data regarding school days in excess of 180 and hours of schoolwork in excess of 900. Please note that the waiver permitted by the State Board of Education, allowing districts to replace up to three (3) school days for 2020-21 with training and preparation days for the return to school buildings, has no effect on this schedule. Districts must have offered school days in excess of 180 and hours of schoolwork in excess of 900 to report additional school days.

For Regional Educational Service Centers: Due to federal reporting requirements, lines have been added to the Private/Miscellaneous Funding Schedule to separately report a) Other funding from state or federal sources or Connecticut school districts, and b) Other funding not from state or federal sources or Connecticut school districts.