

ODEW EMIS-ITC Call - 03/30/2026

Notes provided by Gretchen Martin (ACCESS) and BreAnn Blubaugh (LACA)

Final Correction Opportunity - The final correction opportunity for the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment opens today, Monday, March 30th, and closes Friday, April 10th. The deadline to submit corrected data in EMIS for approved final correction opportunities is Friday, April 17th, at 11:59 p.m. <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/EMIS/Reporting-Responsibilities/Final-Correction-Opportunities>

EMIS Changes - ODEW is working diligently on EMIS Changes for next fiscal year and will be holding the change calls next week for ITC staff and vendors.

Data Collector Updates - A new version of the data collector will be released (hopefully) this week. ITCs are asked to install the new version within two weeks of its release. The big change in this new version is Data Comparisons. These are designed to help users identify exactly what has changed between their current data preparation and the last submission processed by ODEW.

Key features of this update include:

- The comparison features will be enabled one record type at a time, with the goal of full implementation by this summer
- Users may notice slightly longer data "prepare" times due to the additional comparison stage
- New Record Statuses: Records will be categorized as New (no previous match), Updated (changes in non-key fields), No Change (identical to the prior submission), or Deleted (missing from the current data)
 - ODEW research indicates about 98% of records typically fall into the "No Change" category
- A new "Processed by DEW" section highlights records that were previously valid but now contain errors, or records that were in the last submission but are now missing
- To make updates easier to spot, changed records will be bolded, and the system will use color coding to distinguish between current (white or tan) and prior submission data (blue)
- To ensure accuracy in comparison data, a submission "hold" will occur daily from 5:05 PM to 6:00 PM; while users cannot submit during this window, they can still collect, prepare, and preview their data

There is one additional planned release to the data collector about 4-6 weeks after this release to update the version of Java the data collector runs on. DEW is still working on the Java update for the USxS agents, as well as alternative solutions for the ZIS and Student Locator Framework.

The presentation highlighting this information was shared with EMIS ITC staff via email. This will be discussed in depth at OAEP.

Q&A

Q: With the Data Comparison, does it happen each time a collect and prepare is done, or just once overnight? I wasn't sure due to the shutdown time.

A: The 5:05-6:00 pm shutdown is about communication between the Data Collector and the Report Collector. The data comparison happens right after the prepare process. As it steps through the prepare process on the screen, there will be an additional stage at the very end of it. So, you can do

the data compare multiple times per day, just like you can collect/prepare multiple times per day if you find errors to fix. Once data is fixed/updated and data is reprepared, it will complete the data comparison against what had last been submitted to DEW.

Q: Will these data comparisons coincide with the Level 1 fatal errors, so they can also use that as a guide?

A: Yes, they will be in sync.

Q: Do you think with this slow down process, will our ITCs need to add resources?

A: That will vary from one ITC to the next. It's mostly about the database server more than the application server, so if your database is tapped out, or already having performance issues, then you may have an issue. We won't know for sure, however, until its release. This is also part of the reason for only adding one record type at a time. If you find there is a lot of time lag when districts are running the collect/prepare processes and the data compare, let ODEW know this. It will probably take a couple of months before all record types are released for data comparison. Our hope is that no one will have issues, but it's possible there could be an issue. We mainly just want to make you aware - I don't think there's anything that needs to be done proactively except pay attention to how performance goes and let us know of any issues.

Q: This is huge and very impactful to the EMIS Coordinators. Will ODEW EMIS have some type of webinar or training?

A: We are not planning to do anything prior to OAEP. I will talk about it quite a bit during the OAEP presentation. You are free to use this presentation we shared and share it with your districts. We will only roll out a few record types between now and OAEP; most won't be released until after OAEP. We have 2 weeks after release for ITCs to get it installed. We are looking at probably the 2nd or 3rd week of April before even 1 record type is turned on. We will do some communication about it at that time, but the first presentation on this will be at OAEP. Things will begin rolling out at a little stronger pace once we get into May. I would also expect our EMIS trainers to include some of this in a session after OAEP.

Q: What record types will be first?

A: We are not sure just yet but will be meeting soon to map that out. We are thinking possibly Assessment, the DN record, or even Calendars.

Q: You said it will be unavailable between 5-6 pm; does this mean we cannot prepare at all during those times?

A: You can still do all of that (collect, prepare, preview), and can still submit right at 6:01 pm if there was nothing being processed from earlier that day. There is a message at the right side of the Prepare window to remind districts that they will need to reprepare. This hold time is really a protection in case you submitted already that day - if districts send us something that's not compared against the right window, that's misleading to districts and will cause more processing for ODEW.

Q: Regarding the sunseting of the Flat File Editor - if districts have sequential files already loaded in the FFE, will they be safe if they have them in the data collector until next year - they won't fatal?

A: Yes, this does not change at all the use of fixed length files for submissions.

Q: When will the release be coming out?

A: Yes, we think it will still be this week; we are just not sure which day.

Upcoming Call Schedule

Wednesday, April 8 - EMIS Change Call

Thursday, April 9 - Vendor Change Call

Monday, April 13, 2026 - ODEW ITC Call

Manual guidance prevails if there is a conflict between the information shared on this call and the EMIS Manual.