Ohio’s innovative spirit and “roll-up-its-sleeves” attitude toward solving complex challenges is interwoven into the fabric of the State. So, when COVID-19 came in as a sledgehammer, imposing an incredible burden to State’s citizens, Ohioans stepped up. It is with this backdrop that Ohio responds to Absolute Priority 3 of the ESF–REM Discretionary Grants Program. Ohio’s project goal: To coordinate, integrate, replicate and scale Ohio’s innovative field-initiated student learning and remote education exemplars to significantly increase student access to transformative remote caring, teaching and learning opportunities; promote the continuity and fluency of learning; improve student outcomes and close the State’s equity gap.

Ohio requests $ over 36 months to execute its five-point plan: 1) Launch RemotEDx, an organized marketplace that connects educators and schools to innovative field-initiated student learning and remote education exemplars to exchange ideas, integrate concepts and transform remote education offerings; 2) Establish a companion RemotEDx Network and Coordinating Council to inform policies and practices and enhance partnerships; 3) Deploy a RemotEDx Support Squad to facilitate model selection and implementation and assist with job-embedded professional learning in support of remote education; 4) Deploy RemotEDx Connectivity Crusaders who help schools meet technology and internet needs of students; and 5) Establish formal feedback loops so RemotEDx drives improvement across Ohio’s education community. Partners include INFOhio, Educational Service Centers, Information Technology Centers, Ohio Distance Learning Association, Ohio STEM Learning Network, Ohio PTA, Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM and Ohio’s internet-based schools. Possible examples of innovative field-initiated student learning exemplars include Remote Learning Alliance, StartSole and Bonds of Union.