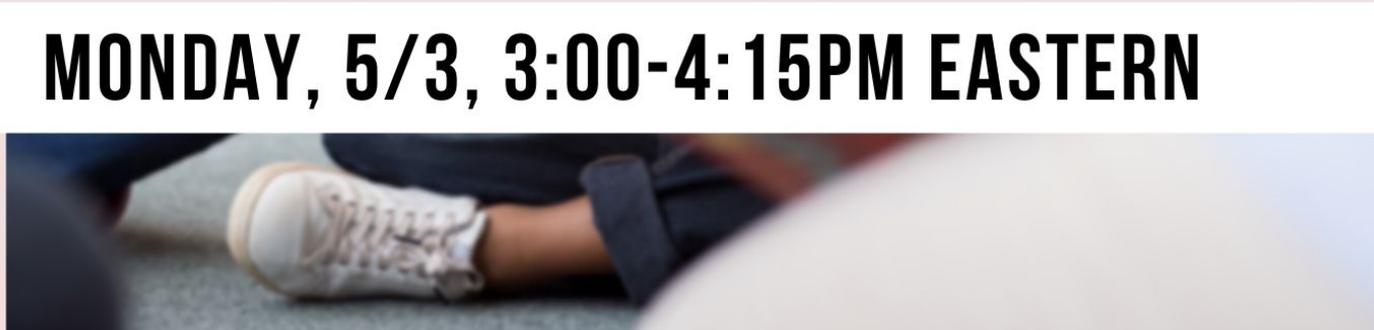




HOW TO USE ARP FUNDS TO IDENTIFY AND SUPPORT CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



MONDAY, 5/3, 3:00-4:15PM EASTERN

About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

- Website:
<http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org>
- Newsletter:
<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/>
- COVID resources
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships



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Today's Agenda:



- ARP Homeless Children and Youth (ARP HCY) 101
- Using Funds Strategically with other Federal and State Resources
- Needs and Potential Uses

More Guidance is Coming!

- We will do our best to answer your questions today
 - ED is in the process of answering questions and issuing guidance
 - Your state may also have unique considerations
-

ARP Homeless Children and Youth: 101

America Rescue Plan

Homeless Children and Youth [ARP HCY] Funding

Appropriation specifically for children and youth experiencing homelessness = **\$800 Million**

ED retaining \$1 million = **\$1 Million**

Rest going out to states in two batches

\$199,750,000
available as of last week
("ARP Homeless I")

\$599,250,000
later this summer
("ARP Homeless II")

Who Administers ARP HCY?

- The Office of the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth must administer the funds.
- SEAs can retain up to 25% for state-level activities.
- LEAs receive the rest.

When and How?

When will LEAs receive funds?

ARP I: It depends. ED urges states to begin disbursing funds “quickly to meet the immediate needs of students experiencing homelessness.”

ARP II: Late summer or fall

How is each state funding amount calculated?

According to the Title IA formula (specific state allocations can be found here).

How?

**How is each LEA's
funding amount
calculated?**

ARP HCY I: Current McKinney-Vento subgrant recipients and/or recipients of a new ARP subgrant competition.

ARP HCY II: Formula based in part on Title I Part A and in part on 2018-19. ED must issue regulations.

Community Partnerships

- Both SEAs and LEAs are encouraged to “award contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as:
 - rural children and youth,
 - Tribal children and youth,
 - students of color,
 - children and youth with disabilities,
 - English learners,
 - LGBTQ+ youth, and
 - pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students, and
- connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services”



Questions?

Strategically Using ARP HCY Funds with Other Federal and State Resources

Strategic Use of Funds

- ARP HCY should be used to meet urgent needs, but not to replace funds that are otherwise available.
- ARP Homeless funds must supplement the supports and services provided with ESSER funds and not replace ESSER funds to support students experiencing homelessness.

Funds Available to Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

1. **Access to School and Learning:** ESSER
2. **Early childhood:** child care, Head Start, Home Visiting
3. **Higher Ed:** Emergency Financial Aid Grants
4. **Housing Assistance:** HOME Investment Partnership Program, Emergency Housing Choice Vouchers, Emergency Rental Assistance
5. **Technology and Connectivity:** E-Rate, Emergency Broadband Benefit
6. **Food:** National School Lunch Program, Pandemic-EBT, SNAP
7. **Health/Mental Health:** ESSER, Federal Insurance Market Place
8. **Income Support:** Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Stimulus Payments

Considerations for Using Funds Strategically



Consider: What are the needs of McKinney-Vento children and youth? Solicit stakeholder feedback to understand.

Use the most restrictive funding sources first, followed by more flexible funds:

- 1) Title I;
- 2) MV subgrant funds;
- 3) ARP HCY

Think big!



Questions?



Needs and Uses: US Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter

- “Any expenses that are reasonable and necessary to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness”
- “Address urgent needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness-- including academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs”
- “So states and LEAs can increase capacity by hiring staff, dedicating resources, and planning partnerships with community-based organizations, among other strategies”

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/overview-of-used-guidance-on-arp/>

Needs and Potential Uses: State Agencies



1. Support LEAs in identification/re-engagement, especially districts that do not receive EHCY subgrants
2. Launch a robust public outreach campaign to help reconnect families and youth
3. Establish and publicize a hotline with the capacity to respond to LEAs, parents, youth, and providers.
4. Coordinate a “Have You Seen This Student” information system to track missing McKinney-Vento students
5. Develop an advisory board for EHCY, to include shelter providers, liaisons, other state agency colleagues, etc.

Needs and Potential Uses: State Agencies



6. Develop and provide online course credentialing program for LEAs, liaisons, and school staff
7. Increase SEA's presence throughout state by regular participation in community partner meetings
8. Manage a data review across LEAs to assess grad rates, chronic absenteeism, discipline, and other characteristics of MV students compared to others
9. Create an early childhood homelessness position to coordinate outreach and identification of children experiencing homelessness across early childhood programs in the state

SHC Resource: How to Use ARP Funds to Identify and Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

1. Increase outreach and identification
2. Identifying students *this spring* and connecting them to summer learning and enrichment programs this summer (summer 2021)
3. Enhance communication options with families and students
4. Increase counseling and social work services
5. Hire systems navigators to connect children and families to resources
6. Provide academic coaching and in-person enrichment
7. Ensure young children have access to early childhood education
8. Make systems and processes more McKinney-Vento friendly
9. Help meet rising mental health needs
10. Provide more and better transportation options



Questions?

What are your **BIG** ideas for **SEA/LEA Capacity**?

Type into the chat your creative, out-of-the-box thinking for how to use these funds to **increase SEA or LEA capacity** to meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

What are your BIG ideas for Partnerships?

Type into the chat your ideas for **community-based organizations** that can help identify children and youth experiencing homelessness, connect them to services, and provide wraparound supports.

What are your **BIG** ideas for Summer programs?

Type into the chat your ideas for **providing access to summer programming** that can help identify children and youth experiencing homelessness, connect them to services, and provide wraparound supports.



Questions?

Thank you!

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