Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

- State Title I plans must describe how the state educational agency (SEA) will provide support to local educational agencies to ensure the identification, enrollment, attendance, and school stability of homeless children and youth. 20 U.S.C. §6311(g)(1)(F).  

- Local Title I plans must describe the services the local educational agency (LEA) will provide to support the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth, including services provided with the Title I homeless reservation, in coordination with the services the LEA provides under the McKinney-Vento Act. 20 U.S.C. §6312(b)(6).  

- All LEAs that receive Title I Part A funds must reserve funds to support homeless students. 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(A).  

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1 “(g) OTHER PLAN PROVISIONS.—(1) DESCRIPTIONS.—Each State plan shall describe... (F) how the State educational agency will provide support to local educational agencies in the identification, enrollment, attendance, and school stability of homeless children and youths.”

2 “(b) PLAN PROVISIONS.—To ensure that all children receive a high-quality education, and to close the achievement gap between children meeting the challenging State academic standards and those children who are not meeting such standards, each local educational agency plan shall describe... (6) the services the local educational agency will provide homeless children and youths, including services provided with funds reserved under section 1113(c)(3)(A), to support the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youths, in coordination with the services the local educational agency is providing under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq.).”

3 “(c) ALLOCATIONS ... (3) RESERVATION OF FUNDS. (A) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency shall reserve such funds as are necessary under this part, determined in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C), to provide services comparable to those provided to children in schools funded under this part to serve— (i) homeless children and youths, including providing educationally related support services to children in shelters and other locations where children may live.” [By deleting the phrase “who do not attend participating schools”, this amendment requires all LEAs that receive Title I, Part A to reserve such funds as are necessary to provide homeless children and youth with services comparable to those provided to children in schools funded under this part. See also Letter from U.S. Department of Education dated July 30, 2018]
● The amount of Title I funds reserved for homeless children and youth may be determined based on a needs assessment, and must be based on the total allocation received by the LEA and reserved prior to any allowable expenditure of transfers by the LEA. 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(B) and (C)(i). ⁴

● Title I funds reserved for homeless children and youth may be used for services not ordinarily provided by Title I, including local liaisons and transportation to the school of origin. 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(C)(ii). ⁵

● State report cards must include disaggregated information on the graduation rates and academic achievement of homeless children and youth. 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C)(ii) and (iii). ⁶

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⁴ “(c) ALLOCATIONS … (3) RESERVATION OF FUNDS… (B) METHOD OF DETERMINATION.—The share of funds determined under subparagraph (A) shall be determined—(i) based on the total allocation received by the local educational agency; and (ii) prior to any allowable expenditure or transfers by the local educational agency. (C) HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS.—Funds reserved under subparagraph (A)(i) may be—(i) determined based on a needs assessment of homeless children and youths in the local educational agency, taking into consideration the number and needs of homeless children and youths in the local educational agency, and which needs assessment may be the same needs assessment as conducted under section 723(b)(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11433(b)(1)).”

⁵ “(c) ALLOCATIONS … (3) RESERVATION OF FUNDS… (C) HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS.—Funds reserved under subparagraph (A)(i) may be… (ii) used to provide homeless children and youths with services not ordinarily provided to other students under this part, including providing—(I) funding for the liaison designated pursuant to section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii)); and (II) transportation pursuant to section 722(g)(1)(J)(iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)).”

⁶ “(h) REPORTS.— (1) ANNUAL STATE REPORT CARD…(C) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—Each State report card required under this subsection shall include the following information: …(ii) For all students and disaggregated by each subgroup of students described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(xi), homeless status, …information on student achievement on the academic assessments described in subsection (b)(2) at each level of achievement, as determined by the State under subsection (b)(1). …(iii) For all students and disaggregated by each of the subgroups of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2), and for purposes of subclause (II) of this clause, homeless status and status as a child in foster care—… (II) high school graduation rates, including four-year adjusted cohort graduation rates and, at the State's discretion, extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rates.”