



“10 IN 10”

ORIENTATION TUTORIAL FOR NEW STATE COORDINATORS FOR THE EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM

MODULE 5: AWARDING AND OVERSEEING LEA MCKINNEY-VENTO SUBGRANTS

MODULE 5 OVERVIEW

In Module 5, State Coordinators will learn about

- What portion of a State's allocation for the EHCY program must be awarded in competitive subgrants to LEAs
- SEA requirements for conducting and overseeing McKinney-Vento subgrants in LEAs
- The purpose of McKinney-Vento subgrants
- What strong applications must include
- Allowable uses of subgrant funds
- State Coordinator responsibilities for overseeing the McKinney-Vento subgrant program
- Considerations for planning your state's McKinney-Vento subgrant program

Abbreviations used in this module:

ED – U. S. Department of Education

EHCY – Education for Homeless Children and Youth

LEA – Local educational agency

Local liaison – LEA local homeless liaison

NCHE – National Center for Homeless Education

SEA – State educational agency



HOW MUCH OF A STATE'S EHCY GRANT MUST BE DISTRIBUTED IN SUBGRANTS TO LEAS?

- A state receiving above the minimum level must distribute not less than 75% of its allocation in subgrants to LEAs.* [42 U.S.C. § 11432(e)(1)]
- States funded at a minimum level, must distribute not less than 50% of their allocation in subgrants to LEAs.

**Text on the provisions in the law has been shortened for brevity; read the full text of the [McKinney-Vento Act](#) for exact language and details.*



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LEA MCKINNEY-VENTO SUBGRANTS?

- The purpose of LEA McKinney-Vento subgrants is to facilitate the identification, enrollment, attendance, and success in school of children and youth experiencing homelessness. [42 U.S.C. § 11433(a)(1)]



WHAT SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED THROUGH THE SUBGRANTS?

[42 U.S.C. §11433(a)(2)(A)]

Services

- May be provided through programs on school grounds or at other facilities.
- Must, to the extent practicable, be provided through existing programs and mechanisms that integrate children and youth experiencing homelessness with those who are not homeless.
- Must be designed to expand or improve services provided as part of a school's regular academic program, but not to replace a school's regular services.



SUBGRANT FUNDS MAY NOT PROVIDE SERVICES THAT SEGREGATE STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS [42 U.S.C. §11433(a)(2)(B)]

- If services are provided on school grounds, the school may use the funds to provide the same services to other students who the LEA determines are at risk of failing in or dropping out of school.
- Services must not be provided in settings within a school that segregates students experiencing homelessness from other students, except as necessary for short periods of time for health and safety emergencies or to provide temporary, special, and supplementary services to meet the unique needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness.



DURATION OF THE GRANTS [42 U.S.C. §11433 (a)(4)]

- Subgrants must be made for terms not to exceed three years.



CRITERIA FOR AWARDS [42 U.S.C. §11433(c)]

- McKinney-Vento subgrants must be awarded on a competitive basis.
- Awards to LEAs must be made on the basis of
 - (1) Need
 - (2) Quality of the applications that must include the
 - Applicant's needs assessment
 - Types, intensity, and coordination of services to be provided
 - Extent to which the applicant will promote meaningful involvement of parents and guardians of children and youth experiencing homelessness in the education of their children
 - Extent to which children and youth experiencing homelessness will be integrated into the regular education program



CRITERIA FOR AWARDS (CONT.) [42 U.S.C. §11433(c)]

- Awards to LEAs must be made on the basis of
 - (2) Quality of the applications that must include the (continued)
 - Quality of the evaluation plan for the program
 - Extent to which services will be coordinated with other services for children and youth experiencing homelessness and their families
 - Extent to which the LEA will use funds to leverage resources
 - Way the LEA will use funds to serve children and youths experiencing homelessness under ESEA § 1113(c)(3)(Title I)
 - Extent to which the LEA program meets other measures the SEA determines indicative of a high-quality program



AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES [42 U.S.C. §11433(d)]

- (1) Provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services
- (2) Provision of expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of students experiencing homelessness
- (3) Professional development and other activities for educators and specialized instructional support personnel to heighten understanding of the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness and their rights
- (4) The provision of referral services to children and youth experiencing homelessness for medical, dental, and other health services
- (5) The provision of assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding to enable the child to attend the selected school
- (6) The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs, not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding



AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES (CONT.) [42 U.S.C. §11433(d)]

- (7) The provision of services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain children and youths experiencing homelessness who are not enrolled in school, in public school programs and services provided to nonhomeless children and youth
- (8) The provision for children and youth experiencing homelessness of before- and after-school, mentoring, and summer programs in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities
- (9) If necessary, the payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records
- (10) The provision of education and training to parents and guardians of children and youth experiencing homelessness about rights and resources available and other activities to increase their involvement in the education of their children



AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES (CONT.) [42 U.S.C. §11433(d)]

- (11) The development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to children and youth experiencing homelessness
- (12) The provision of specialized instructional support services and referrals for such services
- (13) Activities to address the particular needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness that may arise from domestic violence and parental mental health or substance abuse problems
- (14) The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities to provide services through a subgrant
- (15) The provision of school supplies, including supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations
- (16) The provision of other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable children and youth experiencing homelessness to attend school and participate fully in school activities



STATE COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OVERSEEING SUBGRANTS

- Conducting the subgrant process in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act and SEA policies on granting funds
- Disbursing funds on an annual basis to subgrantees
- Ensuring that LEAs are using subgrant funds for allowable expenditures
 - Providing training and technical assistance on allowable uses of funds
 - Reviewing expenditures of each subgrantee on a regular basis
 - Approving budget amendments for subgrantees who wish to alter their spending plan
- Monitoring subgrantees at least once during each subgrant cycle



CONSIDERATIONS FOR SUBGRANTS

SEAs have the flexibility for

- Awarding subgrants once every three years or more frequently
- Awarding larger funding amounts to a smaller number of LEAs or awarding smaller funding amounts to a larger number of LEAs
- Awarding funds based on number of students identified in a tiered approach or based on activities proposed for documented needs
- Awarding subgrants to individual LEAs and consortia of LEAs

As State Coordinators become familiar with the state EHCY program, they should critically review the effectiveness of their subgrants and be willing to make changes to ensure that LEAs with subgrant awards can best serve their children and youth experiencing homelessness.



GOOD PRACTICES FOR OVERSEEING THE MCKINNEY-VENTO SUBGRANT PROCESS

“Section I – The McKinney-Vento Subgrant Process” in NCHE's [State Coordinator's Handbook](#) provides a wealth of strategies and good practices to help with reviewing and revising the McKinney-Vento subgrant program in your state, including

- Planning the subgrant cycle
- Developing the request for applications
- Providing training and technical assistance to LEAs on developing their applications
- Conducting the application review process
- Making awards
- Providing oversight with end-of-year reports and monitoring



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What portion of a state's EHCY funding must be awarded to LEAs in subgrants?
2. How frequently must the LEA McKinney-Vento subgrant process occur?
3. What are the two primary criteria for subgrant awards?
4. What are five allowable expenses for McKinney-Vento subgrants?
5. How many McKinney-Vento subgrant awards does your SEA make?
6. When was the subgrant process last conducted in your state?



RESOURCES

- [Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program: Non-regulatory Guidance](#)
- [The McKinney-Vento Act: Education for Homeless Children and Youths, Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 \(42 U.S.C. Chapter 119, Subchapter VI, Part B: Education for Homeless Children and Youths §§ 11431-11435\)](#)
- NCHE: [State Coordinator's Handbook \(Sections I and J\)](#)

