

# Title I, Part C - Migrant Education Program (MEP)

The MEP, authorized under Title I, Part C, sections 1301 – 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended, provides formula grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) to address the unique educational needs of migratory children and to ensure that migratory children receive full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet.

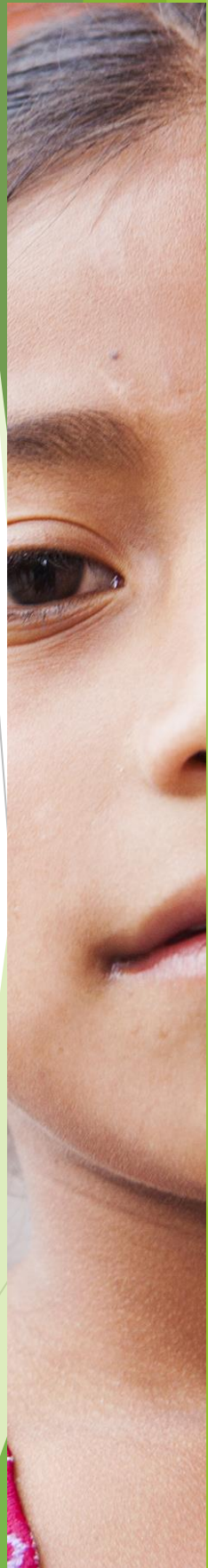


## Who is eligible?

Children ages birth through age 21, who are entitled to a free public education through grade 12 in the State (or are not yet at a grade level at which the local educational agency (LEA) provides a free public education- e.g., preschool children;) **AND** who moved as a migratory agricultural worker or migratory fisher, **OR** with or to join a parent/guardian or spouse who is a migratory agricultural worker or migratory fisher.

## How long is a child eligible?

Migratory children are eligible for the MEP for 36 months from their most recent qualifying arrival date (QAD) that is recorded on his/her Certificate of Eligibility (COE).



## 5 Key Principles for the Allowable Use of MEP Funds

- 1) The activity or service comports with the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) and the strategies outlined in the State's Service Delivery Plan (SDP)
- 2) MEP funds must **first be used to meet the identified needs of migratory children that result from their migratory lifestyle** and to permit these children to participate effectively in school.
- 3) The activity or service meets the needs of migratory children that are not addressed by services available from other Federal or non-Federal programs.
- 4) The MEP funds are used to supplement, rather than supplant, the use of non-Federal funds.
- 5) The costs of the service or activity must comport with the cost principles described in the Uniform Guidance (Subpart E of 2 CFR Part 200). The cost principles require, among other things, that costs of the service or activity be reasonable and necessary and be allocable (or chargeable) to the MEP relative to the benefit received.

## Strategies for Effective Collaboration Across Programs

- ▶ Participation in joint recruitment activities
- ▶ Participation in each other's parent meetings
- ▶ Referrals for each other's services
- ▶ Creation of a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide services
- ▶ Joint training to familiarize staff with eligibility requirements for each program
- ▶ Joint presentations at state and national conferences
- ▶ Participation of key program staff in strategic planning sessions for each program
- ▶ Facilitation of school visits to support transition services
- ▶ Orientation to each program's network
- ▶ Serve on program advisory boards
- ▶ Joint identification of new areas for recruitment