



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TO: Colorado Superintendents, BOCES Directors, District Homeless Liaisons and Title I Directors

FROM: Ed Steinberg, Assistant Commissioner of Education

Dana Scott, State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

DATE: May 29, 2009

**RE: MCKINNEY-VENTO EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH FUNDING
THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)
CFDA No. 84.387A Grant Code: 5387**

Colorado has received \$924,815 in federal funding for a new Homeless Education grant opportunity provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). As a result, CDE is administering a competitive grant process in order to identify the Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) with the greatest needs to receive McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Funding through the ARRA (referred to as "McKinney-Vento ARRA" in this memo and attached grant application). The grant competition will start in May 2009, with funding decisions made by July 31, 2009.

The ARRA provides funds under the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth program, which is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. The Act ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. McKinney-Vento ARRA funds are a one-time source of funds to assist LEAs and BOCES in addressing the numerous barriers homeless children face in obtaining a free, appropriate public education. With the increased responsibilities in No Child Left Behind (NCLB) for all LEAs to serve students experiencing homelessness, added to the significant rise in the number of homeless students, we strongly encourage LEAs and BOCES to consider this funding opportunity.

Through McKinney-Vento ARRA funds, one-time grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$60,000 will be made available to local LEAs and BOCES to ensure increased access and academic success in school for homeless children and youth. McKinney-Vento ARRA funds will be available for obligation from Aug. 1, 2009 through Sept. 30, 2011. Funds must be used for activities authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act and are subject to the same statutory and regulatory requirements as McKinney-Vento Title X, Part C of NCLB funds made available through the regular FY 2009 appropriation, except for specific requirements concerning sub grant procedures, accountability and reporting. These areas are described in greater detail in the attached grant application.

To apply for the funds, complete the attached grant application information page, grant application and budget. All submission materials must be postmarked or delivered to CDE's Office of Homeless Education by 4 p.m. (MDT) Wednesday, July 8, 2009. Applications should be delivered or mailed to Dana Scott, Colorado Department of Education, 201 E. Colfax Ave., Room #305, Denver, CO 80203.

Faxed or e-mailed applications will not be accepted. Within three business days of the receipt of application, the applicant can expect to receive an e-mail message confirming that CDE received the application. It is the responsibility of the applicant provider to notify Dana Scott at the contact information below if this message is not received.

CDE will have three conference call opportunities open to all LEAs and BOCES to discuss the application and answer questions. Joining us will be Marti Rodriguez of CDE's Grants Fiscal Management Unit. Call dates and times are as follows:

Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 3:15pm
Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 3:15pm
Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 10:00am

You do not need to be a part of all three calls. Three dates were set to try to minimize schedule conflicts. To join the call, dial 1-866-751-5726, or if you are in the Denver Metro Area (720) 587-1499, then *8345721* (be sure to push the star key before and after the code).

Applications will be read and scored by a team of representatives from educational programs, homeless service provider agencies and other stakeholders working with children and youth experiencing homelessness. Notification to LEAs and BOCES will be made Friday, July 31, 2009 with funding available Aug. 1, 2009.

If you have questions, please contact Dana Scott at 303-866-6930 or via e-mail at scott_d@cde.state.co.us. Information regarding Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Title X of NCLB) may be found on CDE's homeless education Webpage at: www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/pihomeless.htm.