



COLORADO

Department of Education

American Rescue Plan-Homeless Children & Youth II (ARP-HCY II) Formula Grants

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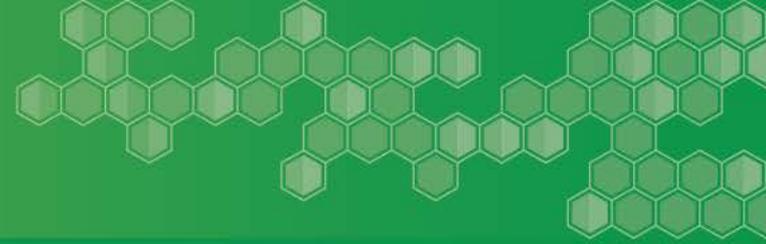
Homelessness in the U.S. and Colorado

- 1.5 million children
- 10% of all children living in poverty are homeless
- In the 2019-20 school year, CO school districts identified 21,420 homeless children and youth
- Approximately 3,694 unaccompanied homeless youth are “couch surfing,” living on the streets, or in emergency shelters in Colorado each night

Barriers to Education for Children & Youth in Homeless Situations

- High mobility
- Enrollment requirements (school records, immunizations, proof of residence and guardianship)
- Lack of transportation
- Lack of access to programs
- Lack of school supplies, clothing, etc.
- Poor health, fatigue, hunger
- Prejudice and misunderstanding

McKinney-Vento/ Title IX, Part A of ESSA



- Reauthorized in 2015 as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Mandated that state and local educational agencies change policies and practices that create barriers to the access and success of homeless children and youth in public schools
- Main themes:
 - School **stability**
 - School **access**
 - **Support** for academic success
 - **Child-centered**, best interest decision making

Eligibility—Who is Covered?

- Children who **lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence**—
 - Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
 - Living in motels, hotels, (inadequate) trailer parks, camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
 - Living in emergency or transitional shelters
 - Abandoned in hospitals
 - Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live
 - Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc.
 - Trailers provided by FEMA after natural disasters
 - Living in the student dormitory if the student would otherwise be homeless

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

- Unaccompanied homeless youth are young people who lack safe, stable housing and who are not in the care of a parent or guardian
- They live in a variety of temporary situations, including shelters, the homes of friends or relatives, cars, campgrounds, public parks, abandoned buildings, motels, and bus or train stations

American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth II Formula Grants

Dana Scott
Office of Student Support

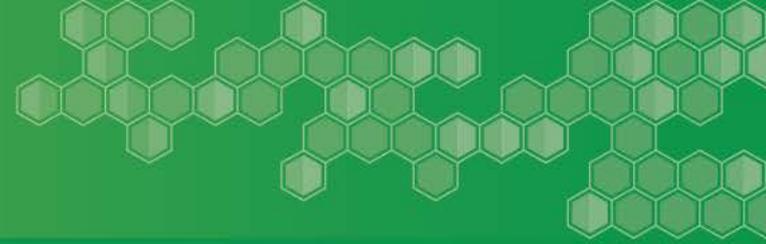
American Rescue Plan—Homeless Children & Youth (ARP-HCY) Formula Grants

- The U.S. Department of Education under section 2001(b)(1) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is providing additional funding to help support school districts in serving students experiencing homelessness.
- The purposes of this funding include:
 - 1) increasing the outreach, identification, enrollment and retention of students experiencing homelessness
 - 2) providing wraparound services for these students considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
 - 3) providing assistance needed to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities.

ARP-HCY I and II

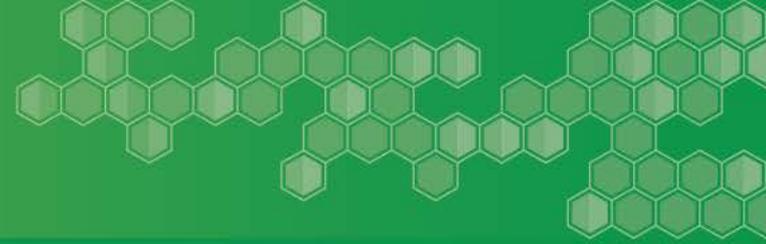
- CDE received two grants specifically focused on supporting the needs of students experiencing homelessness
 - ARP-HCY I- competitive competition held in July/August 2021
 - Grants to 23 LEAs/BOCES as supplemental funding
 - Notifications made in late August and early September
 - ARP-HCY II - formula grant released early September
 - \$4,300,318 is available for this funding opportunity
 - Funds supplement the EHCY program, as well as the ARP-HCY I funds distributed through the competitive distribution process
 - All allowable EHCY and ARP-HCY I uses apply to these funds
 - Applications must be completed and submitted through the online application and will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until Wednesday, December 1, 2021 by 11:59 p.m.

ARP-HCY II



- First time ever for a formula allocation
- The formula is based equally on:
 - The proportional share of an LEA's allocation under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) for the most recent fiscal year and
 - The LEA's proportional share of the number of homeless children and youth identified by each LEA relative to all LEAs in the State, using the greater of the number of homeless children and youth in either the 2018-19 or 2019-20 school year in each LEA.
- The funding application, budget template and formula amounts can be found at: http://www.cde.state.co.us/studentsupport/homeless_index

McKinney-Vento Allowable Expenditures



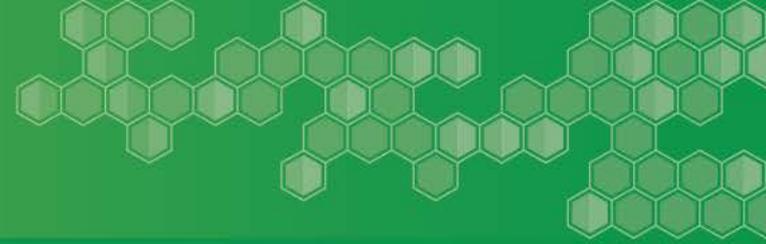
Funding under this program must be used for the purposes of identifying homeless children and youth and providing homeless children and youth with (A) wrap-around services in light of the challenges of COVID–19; and (B) assistance needed to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities.

Funding provided under ARP Homeless II must follow the: [final requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act Homeless Children and Youth Program.](#)

Furthermore, funding under the ARP Homeless I and II programs must adhere to the allowable uses of funds described in Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento Act) including:

- **tutoring** and supplemental instruction
- **referral services** for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
- **transportation** for students to enable students to attend school
- **early childhood education programs**
- the payment **of fees and other costs** associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring **records** necessary for enrollment
- **coordination between schools and agencies**
- **school supplies**
- **other extraordinary or emergency assistance** needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school and participate fully in school activities.

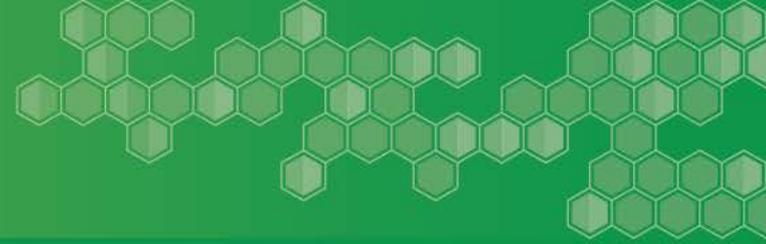
ARP-HCY II Allowable Expenditures



Activities under ARP-HCY II may include any expenses necessary to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention, or educational success of homeless children and youth in order to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities, such as:

- **wraparound services** (which could be provided in collaboration with and/or through contracts with community-based organizations, and could include academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services);
- purchasing **needed supplies** (e.g., personal protective equipment, eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items);
- **transportation** to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities;
- purchasing **cell phones or other technological devices** for unaccompanied, homeless children and youth to enable them to attend school and participate in school;
- providing **access to reliable, high-speed internet** for students through the purchase of internet-connected devices/equipment, mobile hotspots, wireless service plans, or installation of Community Wi-Fi Hotspots (e.g., at homeless shelters), especially in underserved communities;

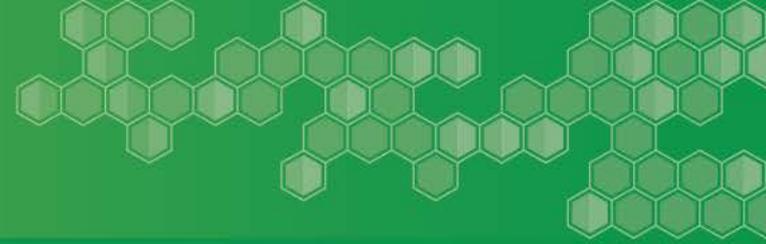




- paying for **short-term, temporary housing** (e.g., a few days in a motel) when such emergency housing is the only reasonable option for COVID-safe temporary housing and when necessary to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities (including summer school); and
- For **store cards/prepaid debit cards** to purchase materials necessary for students to participate in school activities.
 - Per Colorado requirements, **store-specific debit cards must be used toward allowable uses of funds or specific intended purposes outlined above.** Further, the recipient(s) should be able to provide to the LEA the receipt(s) for items for their files for audit purposes.

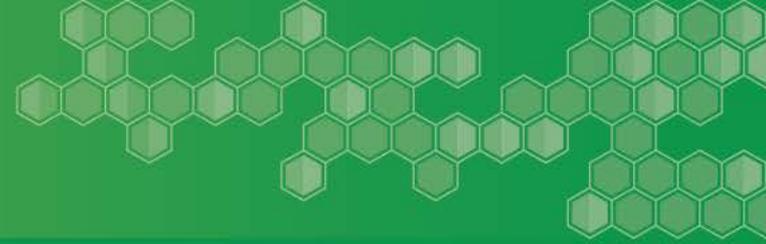
U.S. Department of Education: \$5,000 minimum grants under ARP-HCY II

- The U.S. Department of Education establishes in paragraph (c)(2) that an LEA must have an allocation of at least **\$5,000** under the formula to be eligible for an ARP Homeless II subgrant on its own.
- Per the U.S. Department of Education, this \$5,000 minimum will enable each subgrantee to have sufficient ARP Homeless II funds to address the needs of homeless children and youth.
- If an LEA's allocation is less than \$5,000, in order to receive an ARP Homeless II subgrant, the LEA must join a consortium of LEAs/BOCES in which the sum of its members' allocations meets the \$5,000 threshold. For LEAs/BOCES with an allocation less than \$5,000, the rule encourages the use of consortia to create favorable economies of scale.



Questions so far?

Ideas on how CDE can support the development of consortia for those with less than \$5,000?



- Performance period is from 7/1/21-9/30/22
- Budget template is a one-year period from 7/1/21-6/30/21
 - Utilize carryover option for year two
- Use CDE's Competitive Grant [Formsite](#) submission process for your RFF
- Fiscal Interim Financial Reports (IFR)
 - Due 4/30/22 for the period of 7/1/21-3/31/22
 - Require a copy of the General Ledger for that same period, substantiating the expenditures
 - IFRs must be submitted via [Smartsheet](#)
- Annual Financial Report
 - Due 10/31/22 for the period of 7/1/21-9/30/22 for year one

- Submit right away, you do not have to wait until the December deadline date
- Once received, CDE's Competitive Grants Office will send our program and fiscal staff your application
- Homeless education program and fiscal staff will review within one week and contact the application with questions or approvals
- CDE will send a notification of approval with the grant codes on it
- CDE will start processing the Grant Award Letter (GAL), which you should receive in a couple of weeks after the notification letter

State and National Partners in Educating Homeless Children and Youth

Colorado Department of Education (CDE)

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https://www.cde.state.co.us/studentsupport/homeless_index

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)

www.serve.org/nche

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

<https://naehcy.org/higher-education/>

SchoolHouse Connections

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/learn/higher-education/>