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## **McKinney-Vento Allowable Activities- Closing the Achievement Gap for Students Experiencing Homelessness**

**Purpose and Priorities** - (Title IX, Part A, as reauthorized under ESSA, 12/10/2015) The purpose of the this title is to provide all children a significant opportunity to receive fair, equitable and high quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps for students who are experiencing homelessness.

Strategy	General Program Overview
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remediation for homeless students attending all schools (does not have to be a Title I school)</li> <li>• Support services for all homeless children (i.e. clothing, school supplies, hygiene items, winter boots)</li> <li>• Homeless Liaison activities (student identification and support, coordination with and outside of LEA)</li> <li>• Excess Transportation costs to and from school of origin.</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	See details outlined in each program requirement area.
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• McKinney-Vento set aside is a mandatory program reserve but the amount is up to the LEA (must be a minimum of \$500.00)</li> <li>• Support services must enable the students to fully access the educational program of the school.</li> <li>• Cost of instructor-contract must be with LEA.</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This set aside was originally set up for those homeless students who attended a non-Title I school. It has been broadened to include all homeless students within the LEA. However, this notion of only being used in non-Title I schools may persist in some places.</li> <li>• As of July 2014, new authority in the consolidated Appropriations Act expands the allowable uses of Title I funds to support the activities of the LEA homeless liaison and pay for excess transportation costs for homeless students (although these costs must be listed as separate investment strategies).</li> </ul>

Strategy	Leveraging Title I Funds to directly support McKinney-Vento Families, students and unaccompanied youth
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extracurricular costs and supplies for sports, clubs, art groups or any activity available to non-eligible peers.</li> <li>• Excess transportation costs for participation in extracurricular activities for McKinney-Vento eligible students <i>only</i>.</li> <li>• Extended day and intersession academic programs designed to close the achievement gap or provide credit recoupment due to gaps in learning as a direct result of experiencing homelessness.</li> <li>• Other programing activities that directly removes barriers to accessing equitable academic opportunities</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title I set aside funding for eligible students must be supplemental not supplanting.</li> <li>• Funds may not be used to support segregated programs or reinforce impact of stigmatizing effects of homelessness on eligible families, students and unaccompanied youth.</li> <li>• Funding may not be used for non-academic summer camps, extended day programs or other non-academic intersession programs.</li> </ul>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Title I leveraged funding must meet standards of allowable, necessary, reasonable and allocable.</li> <li>• Leveraged funding must be for McKinney-Vento equitable supplemental academic programs, only.</li> <li>• Leveraged funds may be used to support professional development for Homeless Liaisons.</li> <li>• Leveraged funds may also supplement other allowable non-academic McKinney-Vento programing that removes barriers to education for eligible families, students and unaccompanied youth.</li> <li>• Funds may be used to provide academic intersession or other academic programs designed to close the achievement gap or provide credit recoupment opportunities for students with educational gaps as a direct result of experiencing homelessness.</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reauthorization of McKinney-Vento in December, 2015, strengthened the requirements for Family and Parent Engagement.</li> <li>• Parents/Guardians of eligible students as primary stakeholders must be included when making best interest determinations for transportation, academic or supplemental programing requirement decisions.</li> </ul>

Strategy	Leveraging Title I Funds for Building Liaison Level Program Capacity
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding may be used to design and implement a designated .FTE part-time position to support liaison or in order to meet the needs of eligible families within the LEA. The position must be supported by root cause analysis, LEA level Comprehensive Needs Assessment/Continuous Improvement Plans</li> <li>Leveraged funds may be used by the liaison and .FTE personnel to attend National Association for Education of Homeless Children and Youth annual conference, or other identified national level conference(s) to build program capacity throughout the LEA.</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional development must be supplemental and not supplanting</li> <li>Conferences attended by Liaison or .FTE support personnel must be for McKinney-Vento professional program development or Title I Equity Services for homeless students only.</li> </ul>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional develop opportunities must be reasonable and necessary for developing, implementing, managing and evaluating an effective McKinney-Vento program with fidelity.</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEAs should review data, multiple year student census trends, services accessed by eligible families and academic student achievement in order to update LEA level Comprehensive Needs Assessment/ Continuous Improvement Plans annually.</li> <li>LEAs should evaluate efficacy of program strategies to insure compliance, delivery of equitable services and impact of grant award strategies towards removing barriers to academic success for eligible students and unaccompanied youth.</li> <li>The evaluation of LEA wide McKinney-Vento program by the liaison and other appropriate school personnel may determine an .FTE position is warranted in order to meet legal program requirements. The designated FTE position must be supplemental and not supplanting and be in alignment with the LEA level Comprehensive Needs Assessment/Continuous Improvement Plan.</li> </ul>

Strategy	Professional Development of School Personnel to Build Schoolwide Program Capacity
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental training costs for staff, school registrars, administrative assistants and LEA administration leadership team members</li> <li>• Leveraging use of Title I funds or use of McKinney-Vento award funding for purchase of supplemental training materials aligned with Comprehensive Needs Assessment/Continuous Improvement Plans.</li> <li>• On-going program development training and annual updates under ESSA</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training that is not supplemental and is supplanting</li> <li>• One time, training opportunities that do not support implementation of McKinney-Vento programing with fidelity or remove educational barriers for eligible families, students and unaccompanied youth</li> <li>• Training that does not support equitable services for students experiencing homelessness</li> <li>• Staff training that does not remove barriers to educational segregation of eligible students or promotes development of stigmatizing staff practices and school policies</li> <li>• Funding may not be used to purchase refreshments for staff during training opportunities</li> </ul>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff training must be supplemental</li> <li>• Training must align with identified LEA level Comprehensive Needs Assessment/ Continuous Improvement</li> <li>• Must meet McKinney-Vento Program legal requirements</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to fiscal management, effective McKinney-Vento program management is essential for supporting eligible families, students and unaccompanied youth.</li> <li>• Liaison awareness of community partners, resources and Continuum of Care organizations within and across LEAs will strengthen supports for eligible students and help support academic success.</li> <li>• Collaborative and cooperative coordination of fiscal and programmatic management strategies between and among LEAS will foster innovative solutions for eliminating barriers and support equitable services for eligible families, students and unaccompanied youth.</li> </ul>

Strategy	Transportation Costs
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEAs must reimburse parents/guardians for transporting their children to and from school, including extracurricular activities</li> <li>• Transportation for extended day and intersession academic programming must be for McKinney-Vento eligible students only</li> <li>• Costs associated with transportation must be supplemental and not supplanting</li> <li>• Transportation investments must be identified in the Consolidated Federal Program Grant Application as a separate program strategy eliminating academic barriers for eligible students and unaccompanied youth</li> <li>• Independent transportation providers must meet Agency of Transportation Guidelines and mandates for student safety</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation costs that include students who are not eligible for McKinney-Vento services</li> <li>• Transportation costs that are not supplemental</li> <li>• LEA avoidance of transportation provisions under the law that continue to create barriers for students receiving access to equitable educational opportunities per McKinney-Vento program requirements</li> </ul>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To counteract the educational disruption caused by mobility, the McKinney-Vento Act provides students experiencing homelessness with the right to continue attending the school of origin or enroll in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend</li> <li>• LEAs must provide or arrange transportation to and from school of origin, including extracurricular activities</li> <li>• Liaisons must inform parents or guardians of all available transportation services and options available to and from the school of origin at the request of parent/guardian</li> <li>• If an eligible student begins living in an area served by another LEA, the LEA of origin and the LEA in which the homeless child or youth is living must agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs to and from the school of origin, including cost of transportation for extra-curricular activities, extended day or academic intersession programming</li> <li>• If LEAs are unable to agree upon an apportioned amount, then the responsibility for transportation must be shared equally</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation, as a means to eliminate barriers for receiving an equitable education, must be in the best interest of the child, academic achievement, and not place an undue burden on families or guardians of eligible students.</li> </ul>

Strategy	Supplemental Academic Services
Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental academic services that will assist in closing the achievement gap for eligible students and unaccompanied youth, pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade</li> <li>• Extended academic support services before or after school</li> <li>• Intersession academic programming that will assist in closing the achievement gaps created directly by the condition of experiencing homelessness</li> <li>• Extra-curricular activities offered and available to non-eligible peers</li> <li>• Interventions based upon best interest determinations, school team, parent/guardians and all other important stakeholders</li> <li>• Interventions must be evidence-based and included in the LEA Level Comprehensive Needs Assessment/Continuous Improvement Plans</li> <li>• Post-secondary fees and other allowable additional supplemental expenses incurred through FAFSA (See guidance at <a href="https://nche.ed.gov/ibt/higher_ed.php">https://nche.ed.gov/ibt/higher_ed.php</a>).</li> </ul>
Non-Allowable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Supplemental academic support programming</li> <li>• Non-academic based summer camp activities</li> <li>• Support activities that are supplanting</li> <li>• Instruction that is not provided by appropriately licensed Title I highly qualified teaching staff</li> <li>• Supplemental program supports that include McKinney-Vento non-eligible students</li> </ul>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental educational support services must be coordinated and aligned with the regular education program offered to non-program eligible students or unaccompanied youth</li> <li>• Instruction must be provided by a licensed teacher</li> <li>• The Liaison must develop and implement a plan for evaluating the effectiveness of supplemental services in removing barriers for an equitable education</li> <li>• Liaison must use data to assist in the evaluation of impact of investment strategies and over-all effectiveness of McKinney-Vento programming throughout the LEA</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the services provided supplemental?</li> <li>• Are academic and other allowable support services reasonable, necessary and in the best interest of the child?</li> <li>• Does the LEA have a strong parent and family engagement plan for providing academic and supplemental services and notification of rights, including the dispute process?</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does the LEA's McKinney-Vento program include coordination of services with community agencies and organizations that also serve families and students experiencing homelessness?</li><li>• How is collaboration with other LEA's documented, including shared cost of transportation?</li></ul> |
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