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December 7, 2021

Dr. Miguel A. Cardona  
Secretary of Education  
United States Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Cardona:

Please find enclosed an updated version of Florida's State Plan for the American Rescue Plan Act - Homeless Children and Youth program, originally submitted on September 8, 2021, revised to address the feedback received from the U.S. Department of Education on November 23, 2021.

Should you have any questions regarding this plan, please contact Suzanne Pridgeon at [Suzanne.Pridgeon@fldoe.org](mailto:Suzanne.Pridgeon@fldoe.org) or 850-245-0406.

Sincerely,

Richard Corcoran

RC/aj

Enclosures

cc: Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations

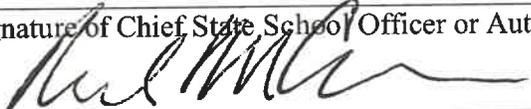


# **Florida Department of Education**

## **State Plan for Funding under the American Rescue Plan Act Education for Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY)**

**CFDA Number: 84.425W**

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN – EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
PART A: APPLICATION COVER SHEET  
(CFDA 84.425W)**

Legal Name (State Educational Agency):  Florida Department of Education	DUNS Number:  <u>785319963</u>
Address (Street Number and Name, City, State, Zip Code):  325 West Gaines Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400	Contact Information for State Program Representative:  Name: Courtney J. Walker  Position & Office: Federal Director, Florida McKinney-Vento Program  Street Number and Name, City, State, Zip Code: 325 West Gaines Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  Telephone: (850) 245-9946  Email address: <a href="mailto:Courtney.Walker@fldoe.org">Courtney.Walker@fldoe.org</a>
To the best of my knowledge and belief, all of the information and data in this application are true and correct. I acknowledge and agree that the failure to comply with all Assurances and Certifications in this application or any applicable law or regulation may result in liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, et seq.; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and 18 U.S.C. § 1001, as appropriate.	
Chief State School Officer or Authorized Representative (Typed Name): Richard Corcoran, Commissioner	Telephone: 850-245-0505
Signature of Chief State School Officer or Authorized Representative: 	Date: 12/7/21

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN – EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PART B: PROGRAMMATIC, FISCAL, AND REPORTING ASSURANCES

*The Chief State School Officer or his/her authorized representative assures the following:*

- a. Funds awarded under this application (ARP Homeless II) will adhere to the final requirements at <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/07/EO-12866-OESE-FY-21-NFR-ARP-HCY-with-disclaimer.docx>.
- b. The State Educational Agency (SEA) will award at least 75% of its total allocation to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), based on the formula set out in the final requirements. The funds remaining after subgrants are made to LEAs may be used by the Office of the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth for state-level activities as reflected in sections 722(f) and (g) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (MVA).
- c. The SEA will comply with, and ensure that LEAs comply with, all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require, including but not limited to the requirements under the MVA, and including but not limited to numbers of students experiencing homelessness identified and supported through American Rescue Plan-Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) funding, and specific details about supports and services received by students.
- d. Within 60 days from publication of this application, the SEA will submit a plan to [HomelessED@ed.gov](mailto:HomelessED@ed.gov) that contains the following information:
  - i. For **ARP Homeless I**:
    - a) How the SEA has used or will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for state-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming in 2021. This must include how the SEA has supported LEAs to plan for and provide wraparound services, in collaboration with state and local agencies for immediate needs this spring 2021, and how it will support LEAs for school year 2021-2022. This should include the extent to which the SEA has or plans to build capacity in LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past in order to ensure that these LEAs are well-prepared to utilize the funds provided in ARP Homeless II;
    - b) How the SEA has used or will use their funds for state-level activities to provide support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming and plan for and provide wraparound services for summer 2021, in collaboration with state and local agencies and other community-based organizations (CBOs); and
    - c) How the SEA has used or will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for distribution to LEAs in accordance with all requirements of EHCY. This must include the extent to which the SEA has or will use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness, and the extent to which the SEA analyzed and reviewed where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state (including in LEAs that are not existing EHCY subgrantees), and how it has or will ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them.

ii. For **ARP Homeless II**:

- a) How the SEA will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for state-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to plan for and provide wraparound services, in collaboration with state and local agencies, for school year 2021-2022; and
- b) How the SEA will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements. This must include a description of how the SEA will distribute funds in accordance with the required formula to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness and the extent to which the SEA has encouraged or will encourage the creation of consortia for those LEAs that may not meet the required minimum formula amount.

iii. For **both ARP Homeless I and ARP Homeless II**:

- a) How the SEA will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness;
- b) The extent to which the SEA will use its state-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to CBOs that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness, and connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services; and
- c) How the SEA will encourage LEAs to award contracts to CBOs to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness.

Chief State School Officer or Authorized Representative (Typed Name): Richard Corcoran, Commissioner	
Signature: 	Date: 12/7/21

## **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN – EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PART C: OTHER ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

*The Chief State School Officer or his/her authorized representative assures or certifies the following:*

- a. The SEA will conduct all its operations so that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under the ARP-HCY program or activity based on race, color, national origin (including a person's limited English proficiency or English learner status and a person's actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), age, or disability. These non-discrimination obligations arise under Federal civil rights laws, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. In addition, the SEA must comply with all regulations, guidelines, and standards issued by the Department under any of these statutes.
- b. The state will comply with all applicable assurances in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation; protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders, and regulations.
- c. With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; the state will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 82, Appendix B); and the State will require the full certification, as set forth in 34 CFR part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.
- d. Any LEA receiving funding under this program will have on file with the state a set of assurances that meets the requirements of section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232e.
- e. To the extent applicable, an LEA will include in its local application a description of how the LEA will comply with the requirements of section 427 of GEPA, 20 U.S.C. 1228a.
- f. The description must include information on the steps the LEA proposes to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede access to, or participation in, the program.
- g. The SEA will comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) requirements in Subpart D—Post Federal Award Requirements (2 CFR §§ 200.300-200.345) and Subpart E—Cost Principles (2 CFR §§ 200.400-200.475) to ensure that LEAs, including charter schools that are LEAs, are using ARP-HCY funds for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the ARP Act and the MVA of 1987, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435.

- h. The state and other entities will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations, and assurances; the provisions of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 75, 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

Chief State School Officer or Authorized Representative (Typed Name): Richard Corcoran, Commissioner	
Signature: 	Date: 12/7/21

## **Introduction**

The United States Department of Education (USED) under Section 2001(b)(1) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 has provided additional funding referred to as American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) to help support school districts in serving students experiencing homelessness. The purposes of this funding include increasing the identification of homeless children and youth, providing wraparound services considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and providing assistance needed to assist homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities. The Florida Department of Education’s (FDOE) Florida McKinney-Vento Program (FMVP) has received \$46,127,238.00 from the ARP-HCY funds to support students experiencing homelessness affected by the economic decline due to the pandemic. In particular, these funds will support the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic achievement of McKinney-Vento eligible children and youth, including wraparound services.

ARP-HCY funds have been allocated by USED to FDOE in two installments: Homeless I in April 2021 and Homeless II in July 2021. These funds are designed to:

- support state-level technical assistance and training to LEAs;
- provide wraparound services to students experiencing homelessness;
- support LEAs for school year 2021-22;
- facilitate collaboration with CBOs specifically addressing the needs of rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness; and
- increase access to summer programming in 2021 and wraparound services in immediate needs in spring 2021 (Homeless I funds only).

## **A Solid Foundation of Florida’s Title IX, Part A (TIXPA) Program**

Utilizing TIXPA funds, the FMVP provided various resources and opportunities to LEAs to assist in navigating the challenges the pandemic presented in identification and services for students experiencing homelessness.

FMVP provided virtual regional roundtable sessions for Florida LEA liaisons in April 2020 and, again, in March and April of 2021. These virtual sessions were designed to allow liaisons to discuss openly their challenges and successes within their LEAs and communities due to the pandemic and school closings. The primary challenge for most LEA liaisons was locating previously identified students and identifying new students experiencing homelessness. The most positive feedback from many was the improved, expanded and growing relationships with new and existing community partners.

In addition to these sessions, FMVP provided updates on available local, state, and national resources as well as shared learning and guidance from the National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) and SchoolHouse Connection (SHC). TIXPA funds were used at the onset of the pandemic and closure of schools.

With the use of ARP-HCY Homeless I and II funds, FMVP will continue to provide and expand the quality program guidance and assistance to liaisons for the maintenance, enhancement, and growth of local MVPs.

## **Florida ARP-HCY Plan Overview**

### **ARP-HCY Homeless I**

A. The SEA will provide to the USED a description of:

- a. how the SEA has used or will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for state-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming in 2021. This must include how the SEA has supported LEAs to plan for and provide wraparound services, in collaboration with state and local agencies for immediate needs this spring 2021, and how it will support LEAs for school year 2021-22. This should include the extent to which the SEA has or plans to build capacity in LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past in order to ensure that these LEAs are well-prepared to utilize the funds provided in ARP Homeless II;
- b. how the SEA has used or will use their funds for state-level activities to provide support to LEAs to increase access to summer programming and plan for and provide wraparound services for summer 2021, in collaboration with state and local agencies and other CBOs; and
- c. how the SEA has used or will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I for distribution to LEAs in accordance with all requirements of EHCY. This must include the extent to which the SEA has or will use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness. The description will include the extent to which the SEA analyzed and reviewed where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state (including non-EHCY subgrantees LEAs), and how it has or will ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them.

## B. State-level Activities

*While SEAs may retain up to 25 percent of ARP Homeless I funds, FDOE decided to reserve only 5 percent of the funds for the implementation and delivery of state-level activities and support services, releasing 95 percent directly to LEAs in support of new and ongoing programming and wraparound services.*

*FDOE informed LEAs of ARP-HCY webinars and training provided by national partners (e.g., National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) and SchoolHouse Connection (SHC)). Additionally, FDOE and the FMVP office provided information and technical assistance, including an overview of ARP-HCY funding, directly to LEAs in support of spring 2021, summer 2021 and ongoing programming through the sessions and publications listed below:*

- *Federal Association of State Federal Educational Program Administrators Conferences on February 21 and September 15, 2021*
- *FDOE Committee of Practitioners (CoP) Meetings on March 10 and September 15, 2021*
- *Florida McKinney-Vento Program Updates in March, April, July, and August 2021*
- *NCHE ARP-HCY SC Peer-to-Peer webinars on June 24, July 8 & 22, August 12 & 26, and September 9 & 23, 2021*
- *FDOE K-12 Federal Programs Back-to-School Webinar on August 13, 2021*
- *Bureau of Federal Educational Programs' Bi-weekly Technical Assistance Tuesdays beginning September 7, 2021*
- *Federal Programs Quarterly Conference Call on November 16, 2021*

*As of February 2021, the state's overall homeless student counts decreased by 26 percent between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years. Prior to the pandemic, there were 31 LEAs underperforming in the identification of children experiencing homelessness according to the FMVP Homeless Student Identification Rate (HSIR), the state standard for identification. The HSIR shows at least five percent of each LEA's free and reduced priced lunch (FRPL) students are identified as homeless. In an effort to build capacity among LEAs that historically have fewer identified homeless students, the FDOE will use the SEA set-aside funds to hire regional navigators to support and improve LEAs' identification processes.*

*As a part of the support provided, the navigators will be responsible for identifying students and their specific student needs while coordinating these efforts with local MVP liaisons. These navigators will be instrumental in increasing the state's identification of these students and ensuring they receive needed services by engaging in outreach activities and providing training; conducting student needs assessments; and assisting with referrals to educational and other support services.*

*As previously stated, the FDOE has elected to distribute 95 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I to LEAs through a Request for Application (RFA). The RFA will require submitted budgets to reflect costs that are reasonable, necessary, and allowable and the uses of funds align with the purpose of, and other requirements in, the MVA. In addition, the RFA will require LEAs to analyze the needs of students experiencing homelessness in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact. LEAs can be*

*reimbursed for activities that were conducted in spring and summer 2021 that addressed the needs of homeless children and youth (HCY) impacted by COVID-19.*

*The FMVP will provide program guidance for all LEAs that outlines the requirements for the MVA and ARP-HCY, with specific attention given to LEAs that have not previously received and EHCY subgrant. This guidance includes allowable use of funds, SEA grant expectations, and referrals to webinars provided by national partners regarding promising practices and required reports. The FMVP will also provide ongoing support to the LEAs during the grant writing process, the review of submitted grants, and the implementation of the program.*

*The 2020-21 and 2021-22 Title IX, Part A (TIXPA) Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) subgrant award recipients will be eligible for ARP-HCY Homeless I funds. Allocations will be based on a per pupil allocation (PPA) formula:*

- *ARP Homeless I State Allocation (95 percent) divided by the number of students identified as homeless in the 2019-20 school year.*

*This funding will be available through a multi-year project with a comprehensive budget and approved activities through September 30, 2024. Preaward costs will be authorized back to March 13, 2020.*

### **C. LEA-level Activities**

*Authorized activities will align with Section 723(d) of the MVA and ARP HCY provisions such as:*

- *Tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services that are linked to the achievement of the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youths.*
- *Expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of homeless children and youths, including needs and eligibility for programs and services (such as educational programs for gifted and talented students, children with disabilities, and English learners, services provided under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or similar State or local programs, programs in career and technical education, and school nutrition programs).*
- *Professional development and other activities for educators and specialized instructional support personnel that are designed to heighten the understanding and sensitivity of such personnel to the needs of homeless children and youths, the rights of such children and youths under this subtitle, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.*
- *Referral services to homeless children and youths for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.*
- *Assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation for students under section 722(g)(4)(A), not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, where necessary to enable students to attend the school selected under section 722(g)(3).*

- *Developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs, not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, for preschool-aged homeless children.*
- *Services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain homeless children and youths, particularly homeless children and youths who are not enrolled in school, in public school programs and services provided to non-homeless children and youths.*
- *Homeless children and youths 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.*
- *Payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll homeless children and youths in school, including birth certificates, immunization or other required health records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services, if necessary.*
- *Education and training to the parents and guardians of homeless children and youths about the rights of, and resources available to, such children and youths, and other activities designed to increase the meaningful involvement of parents and guardians of homeless children and youths in the education of such children and youths.*
- *Development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to homeless children and youths, as described in section 722(g)(5).*
- *Specialized instructional support services (including violence prevention counseling) and referrals for such services. Activities to address the particular needs of homeless children and youths that may arise from domestic violence and parental mental health or substance abuse problems.*
- *Adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available under subsection (a)(2) to provide services under this subsection.*
- *School supplies, including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations.*
- *Other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school and participate fully in school activities.*
- *Wraparound services that could be provided in collaboration with and/or through contracts with CBOs, and could include academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services.*
- *Needed supplies (e.g., Personal Protective Equipment (facemasks), eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items).*

- *Transportation to enable homeless students to attend classes and participate fully in school activities.*
- *Cell phones or other technological devices for unaccompanied homeless youths to enable them to attend and fully participate in school activities.*
- *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.*
- *Payment 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 the homeless students to attend school and participate fully in school activities (including summer school).*
- *Store cards/prepaid debit cards to purchase materials necessary for students to participate in school activities.*

### **ARP-HCY Homeless II**

A. The SEA will provide to the USED a description of:

1. how the SEA will use up to 25 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for state-level activities to provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels, including support to LEAs to plan for and provide wraparound services, in collaboration with state and local agencies, for school year 2021-22; and
2. how the SEA will use at least 75 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements. This must include a description of how the SEA will distribute funds in accordance with the required formula to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness and the extent to which the SEA has encouraged or will encourage the creation of consortia for those LEAs that may not meet the required minimum formula amount.

B. State-level Activities

*FDOE will continue providing ongoing training and technical assistance to all LEAs through informational sessions, webinars, grant development support, and regional conferences. Relevant professional development activities will be provided to LEAs on topics that may include: engaging homeless students, identifying and addressing student needs with CBOs, collaborating with partners to identify and serve homeless students, methods to enhance the needs assessment process, and creating and building partnerships with parents. LEAs will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the trainings provided and suggest preferred topics. Based on the topics and needs, these opportunities will be open and available to the partners of FMVP and local MVPs to ensure a consistent message to all stakeholders. Professional development opportunities may include collaborating with state-level partners to address the specific needs of liaisons and local MVP staff.*

*Additionally, the FDOE FMVP will onboard at least three regional navigators to assist LEAs in identifying children and youth experiencing homelessness. These navigators will be instrumental in increasing the identification of the state's overall number of students experiencing homelessness and ensuring these students receive needed services and supporting LEAs in planning for and providing wraparound services in collaboration with state and local agencies.*

**C. LEA-level Activities**

*95 percent of ARP Homeless II funds will be allocated to LEAs through a Request for Application. Homeless II funds will be available to all LEAs based on the following the U.S. DOE formula:*

- *50 percent in proportion to the amount that each LEA received under Title I, Part A for fiscal year 2020-21 allocations; and*
- *50 percent in proportion to 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 enrolled in each LEA.*

*Based on the Homeless II allocation formula, LEAs with allocations less than \$5,000 will not be eligible for direct funding. The FMVP will encourage LEAs with allocations less than \$20,000 to join an existing consortium or create consortia. FDOE historically partners with established educational consortia to provide fiscal oversight and services to a group of smaller LEAs. The FMVP will facilitate discussions with prospective LEAs regarding the opportunity to join a consortium. These discussions will include an overview of and experiences from existing consortia.*

*Homeless I and II RFA project periods will be December 2021, through September 30, 2024. Preaward costs will be authorized back to March 13, 2020.*

*Authorized activities will align with Section 723(d) of the MVA and ARP-HCY provisions outlined on pages 9-11 of this plan.*

**ARP-HCY Homeless I and II**

**A. The SEA will provide to the USED:**

1. How the SEA will ensure that ARP-HCY supplements the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness;
2. The extent to which the SEA will use its state-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to CBOs that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations such as rural children and youth, Tribal children and youth, students of color, children and youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ+ youth, and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness, and connect them to educationally-related support and wraparound services; and
3. How the SEA will encourage LEAs to award contracts to CBOs to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness.

## B. State-level Activities

*The Department's ARP ESSER proposal includes initiatives within the following themes:*

- 1. Closing achievement gaps;*
- 2. Drastically increasing ELA and math outcomes; and*
- 3. Enhancing student services and supports for all students based on data.*

*The FMVP will ensure that ARP-HCY activities on the state and local levels will supplement and enhance the opportunities available to students experiencing homelessness through ARP ESSER. ARP-HCY funds will be used to address gaps in services for the above-mentioned opportunities and provide services that are unique to students experiencing homelessness.*

*The FMVP will keep the LEAs informed of the FDOE's initiatives for increased collaboration and coordination with local partners to prevent supplanting of services.*

*Activities that will be considered through ARP-HCY funds are:*

- 1. Develop and conduct a statewide FMVP evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the services provided through ARP-HCY. The evaluation process will include:*
  - development of a statewide annual evaluation reporting template*
  - analysis of LEA and state-level evaluation data,*
  - development of a state-level evaluation report*
  - identification of trends in student achievement and FMVP state standards*
  - provision of recommendations for program improvement*
- 2. Develop and conduct a statewide comprehensive needs assessment to identify the needs of students eligible for MVP, particularly underserved populations identified through the ARP-HCY application, in order to determine the needs of the HCY and identify and recommend CBOs that can readily and effectively meet the needs of these students.*
- 3. Coordinate with other Florida state agencies and CBOs to raise awareness and remove non-academic barriers for learning for students experiencing homelessness. It is anticipated that the homeless population, particularly in schools, will increase based on recent trends.*
- 4. Collaborations with Florida state agencies and CBOs will include the development of a statewide database to assist families in finding local services based on need. This database would afford families the opportunity to connect with community-based services in addition to local MVPs.*
- 5. Train LEAs on the positive impact collaborating with CBOs can have on identifying homeless children and youth. These trainings will include best practices and lessons learned from peer LEAs and guidance regarding rules, regulations, and best practices on the administration and oversight of sub-grants and contracts with federal funds.*

*FDOE is in the process of surveying LEAs to identify which CBOs currently support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness locally and statewide. While EHCY subgrantees have provided information on existing collaborative efforts with organizations that serve HCY, the FMVP is preparing to strategically improve the external partnerships throughout Florida including, but not limited to, civic, faith-based, advocacy groups and fraternities/sororities.*

*Using the data and information collected during the survey and the statewide comprehensive needs assessment, FDOE will facilitate networking between LEAs that currently use CBOs to identify and serve homeless students and LEAs that do not. The FMVP will collaborate with subgrantees and CBOs to determine feasibility in establishing regional and/or statewide coordination to identify and support historically underserved populations. The FMVP will lead a virtual training for current and potential CBOs to coordinate efforts, highlight LEA/CBO success stories and unveil the comprehensive needs assessment to ascertain CBO capacity. The FMVP will also collect LEA best and promising practices to develop a Florida resource guidebook which will be available on the FMVP webpage.*

### **Monitoring**

- FMVP will monitor LEAs to ensure compliance with MVA, ARP-HCY assurances, Uniform Grant Guidance, applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, and rules specific to Florida. Monitoring will take place during all three years of funding. Year 1 will consist of enhanced self-monitoring and Years 2 and 3 monitoring will align with the FDOE Universal Monitoring System for K12 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Federal programs (see Appendix C).
- Selection for onsite monitoring will be based on the FDOE Universal Risk Assessment (see Appendix D).

### **Reporting**

- FDOE will collect from all LEAs (on an annual basis) the number of students experiencing homelessness that were impacted by the pandemic and served through ARP-HCY funds. In the 2020-21 school year, FDOE established a homelessness cause code, P-Pandemic. This code will be utilized to collect these annual data.
- FDOE will also collect data on the services and activities implemented with ARP-HCY funds and assess their effectiveness. LEAs will have the opportunity to revise plans and amend budgets to address students' needs.

**Florida ARP-HCY Plan: State-level Outline**

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
1. Regional FMVP Navigators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b><u>Year 1</u></b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b><u>Year 2</u></b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b><u>Year 3</u></b> (2023-24)	1. Rural LEAs 2. LEAs with HSIR lower than 5%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b><u>Homeless I</u></b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b><u>Homeless II</u></b>	September 30, 2024

**Requirement:**

SEA will:

- provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels
- support LEAs to plan for and provide wraparound services
- build capacity in LEAs that have not received an EHCY subgrant in the past in order to ensure that these LEAs are well-prepared to utilize the funds provided in ARP Homeless II
- analyze and review where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state (including in LEAs that are not currently EHCY subgrantees), and ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them

**Description:**

The FMVP Navigators will be utilized to assist in the identification and support of collaborative services for homeless students across the state. Along with identification, navigators will assist LEAs with individual student needs assessment and referral to educational and other support services. The Department will contract for regional navigators in partnership with the three-area consortia (Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, Northeast Florida Educational Consortium, and Heartland Educational Consortium). Identification of students experiencing homelessness will include the following LEAs: Dixie, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Holmes, Jefferson and Liberty. These LEAs have a history of identifying low numbers and are predominantly rural (as identified by Title V, Part B, Subpart 2).

In years two and three the regional navigators will support all LEAs that consistently have a low HSIR (number of identified homeless students identified compared to free and reduced priced lunch counts).

See Appendix E for proposed position description.

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
2. Statewide Program Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 1</b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 2</b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 3</b> (2023-24)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All Florida LEA MVPs and partners</li> <li>2. Students experiencing homelessness and their parents/guardians</li> <li>3. FMVP and partners</li> </ol>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless I</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless II</u>	September 30, 2024

**Requirement:**

SEA will:

- analyze and review where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state (including in LEAs that are not currently EHCY subgrantees), and ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them

**Description:**

FDOE will contract with an external entity to conduct the statewide evaluation process. The evaluation will be conducted to determine the effectiveness of the services provided through ARP-HCY. The evaluation process will include:

- development of a statewide annual evaluation reporting template
- analysis of LEA and state-level evaluation data,
- development of a state-level evaluation report
- identification of trends in student achievement and FMVP state standards
- provision of recommendations for program improvement

Evaluation activities will commence in January 2022 and conclude by September 30, 2024.

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
3. Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 1</b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 2</b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 3</b> (2023-24)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All Florida LEA MVPs and partners</li> <li>2. Students experiencing homelessness and their parents/guardians</li> <li>3. FMVP and partners</li> </ol>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless I</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless II</u>	<b>CNA:</b> September 30, 2022 <b>Service Delivery Plan:</b> July 31, 2023

**Requirement:**

SEA will:

- provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels
- encourage LEAs to award contracts to CBOs to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness
- analyze and review where there are significant concentrations of students and families experiencing homelessness across the state (including in LEAs that are not currently EHCY subgrantees), and ensure that supports from ARP Homeless I can urgently reach them

**Description:**

FDOE will contract with an external entity to conduct the CNA. The CNA will be conducted to determine the impact of COVID-19 on Florida’s homeless student population while identifying the specific needs of students, particularly underserved populations. A service delivery plan will be developed to provide LEAs with strategies to address the needs outlined in the CNA.

This process will include participation and feedback from local MVP liaisons and staff, state and local Federal Program coordinators, early childhood service providers, college/technical schools/university representatives, other state agencies and organizations serving homeless families and students, and community service providers. Stakeholder meetings (up to four) will end by June 30, 2022. The finalized CNA (after review by FDOE and participants) will be available for LEAs and FMVP partners by September 30, 2022.

The development of the service delivery plan will follow the same process as the can, utilizing relevant partners and LEA representatives. Service delivery plan meetings will commence by December 1, 2022, and will conclude no later than June 30, 2023. Dissemination to LEAs and FMVP partners will be conducted by July 31, 2023.

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
4. Professional Development for LEAs and state-level Stakeholders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 1</b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 2</b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 3</b> (2023-24)	1. All Florida LEA MVP and relevant partners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless I</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless II</u>	September 30, 2024

**Requirement:**

SEA will:

- provide training, technical assistance, capacity-building, and engagement at the state and LEA levels
- encourage LEAs to award contracts to CBOs to help identify and support historically underserved populations experiencing homelessness

**Description:**

FDOE will provide relevant professional development activities to LEAs on topics that may include: engaging homeless students, identifying and addressing student needs with CBOs, collaborating with partners to identify and serve homeless students, methods to enhance the needs assessment process, and creating and building partnerships with parents. LEAs will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the trainings provided and preferred topics. Such trainings and opportunities will be offered throughout the funding period (Years 1 – 3). Based on the topics and needs, these opportunities will be open and available to the partners of FMVP and local MVPs to ensure a consistent message to all stakeholders.

Professional development opportunities may include collaborating with state-level partners to address the specific needs of liaisons and local MVP staff.

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
5. Collaboration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 1</b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 2</b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 3</b> (2023-24)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Florida LEA MVP and partners</li> <li>Students experiencing homelessness and parents/guardians</li> <li>FMVP and partners</li> </ol>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless I</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless II</u>	<b>Statewide Partnerships:</b> Ongoing <b>Parent Portal:</b> December 31, 2022
<p><b>Requirement:</b> SEA will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness</li> <li>use its State-level activities funds to award subgrants or contracts to CBOs that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations</li> </ul> <p><b>Description:</b> FDOE will coordinate with other Florida state agencies and CBOs to raise awareness and remove non-academic barriers for learning for students experiencing homelessness. Collaboration will include meetings and the planning and development of the Families and Youths Making Victorious Progress (FYMVP) database, a one-shop services database to assist families in finding local services based on need. This database would afford families the opportunity to connect with community-based services in addition to local MVPs.</p> <p>The Families and Youths Making Victorious Progress (FYMVP) database will have an online portal for parents, guardians, and unaccompanied homeless youth designed to enable homeless families to locate relevant state and local resources in a timely manner. The portal will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>student housing questionnaire to expedite local liaisons’ homeless student identification and enrollment process</li> <li>contact information for local resources consisting of health, housing, workforce, and education (LEA and postsecondary)</li> <li>phone helplines for additional guidance and navigation</li> </ul>				

A. Activity	B. Implementation Year	C. Target Group	D. ARP-HCY	E. Completion Dates
6. Dissemination of funds to LEAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 1</b> (2021-22) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 2</b> (2022-23) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Year 3</b> (2023-24)	1. All Florida LEA McKinney-Vento Programs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless I</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeless II</u>	<b>Original awards issued to LEAs:</b> December 31, 2021  <b>Amendments:</b> July 31, 2024

**Requirement:**

SEA will:

- use at least 95 percent of funds awarded under ARP Homeless I and II for distribution to LEAs in accordance with the final requirements
- describe the extent to which the SEA has or will use funds to supplement existing EHCY subgrants to allow for more rapid fund distribution to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness
- describe how the distribution of funds in accordance with the required formula to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness and the extent to which the SEA has encouraged or will encourage the creation of consortia for those LEAs that may not meet the required minimum formula amount

**Description:**

The beginning of the project/funding period begins October 1, 2021. LEAs will receive the first installment of funds (Year 1) no later than December 31, 2021. LEAs will have the opportunity to amend budgets and activities to address needs through the project/funding period. LEAs with allocations of \$20,000 or less will be encouraged to form LEA consortia. Additional support will be provided by the FMVP Office. LEAs will provide annual progress and expenditure reports due by:

- December 2, 2022 (Year 1)
- December 1, 2023 (Year 2)
- November 29, 2024 (Year 3)

**Appendix A**

**FDOE American Rescue Plan Acronyms**

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Proper name</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>ARP</b>	American Rescue Plan	American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - federal legislation that addresses the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic through educational, economic, and health related funding
<b>ARP-ESSER</b>	American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief	Funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act to address the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on students
<b>ARP-HCY</b>	American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth	Funds authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act to specifically support homeless children and youth
<b>CBO</b>	Community-based organization	Authorized by ARP to assist SEA and LEAs with identifying homeless students and providing wraparound services
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control	Federal entity authorizing eviction moratorium
<b>CFDA</b>	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance	Federal code for ARP-HCY funds
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations	The codification of the general and permanent published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government
<b>CNA</b>	Comprehensive needs assessment	Comprehensive needs assessment conducted to determine the impact of the coronavirus pandemic among Florida’s students experiencing homelessness and to identify their related needs
<b>EHCY</b>	Education of Homeless Children and Youth	Federal name of program authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Title IX, Part A)
<b>ESEA</b>	Elementary and Secondary Education Act	Federal legislation that re-authorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act – Education of Homeless Children and Youth (Title IX, Part A)

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Proper name</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>FDOE</b>	Florida Department of Education	State Educational Agency
<b>FMVP</b>	Florida McKinney-Vento Program	Program office within FDOE designated to oversee McKinney-Vento and ARP-HCY state and local activities
<b>HCY</b>	Homeless children and youth	Children and youth who are experiencing homelessness
<b>HSIR</b>	Homeless Student Identification Rate	Homeless student identification rate, a measurement used by FMVP to monitor LEAs' identification of students experiencing homelessness
<b>LEA</b>	Local educational agency	School districts or entities designated as standalone educational agencies (e.g., charter systems, lab schools, etc.)
<b>MVA</b>	McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act	Federal legislation that authorizes services and provisions for children and youth who are experiencing homelessness
<b>MVP</b>	Local McKinney-Vento program	Programs within local educational agencies designated to serve homeless children and youth
<b>OMB</b>	Office of Management and Budget	Assists the U.S. President in meeting policy, budget, management, and regulatory objectives and to fulfill the agency's statutory responsibilities
<b>RFA</b>	Request for application	Authorizes local educational agencies to receive and use funds from FDOE
<b>SDP</b>	Service delivery plan	Document that outlines research, strategies, and best practices based on the outcomes of the CNA
<b>SEA</b>	State educational agency	FDOE; State agency authorized to receive and oversee funds and activities supported through ARP-HCY

## Homeless Resources

**SchoolHouse Connection** is a national non-profit organization working to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with early childhood programs, schools, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

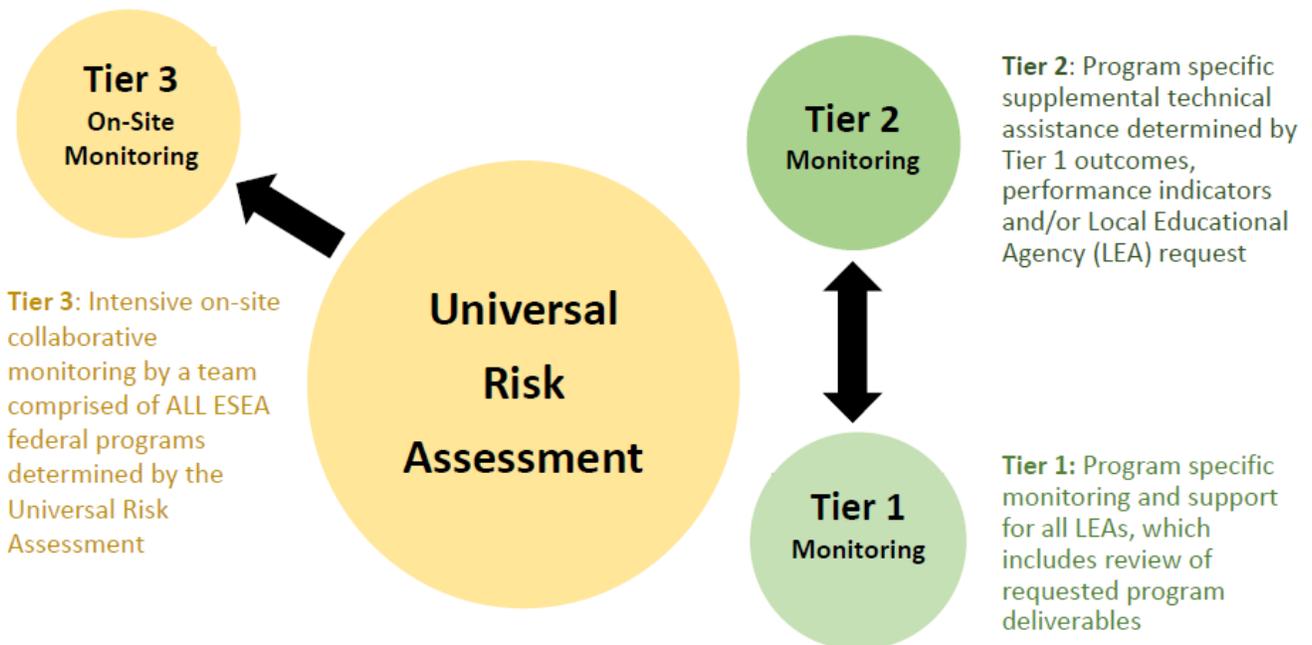
<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/>

**National Center for Homeless Education** operates the USED's technical assistance and information center for the federal EHCY Program. <https://nche.ed.gov/>

## Appendix B

### Florida Department of Education Universal Monitoring System for K12 ESEA Federal Programs

# 2021-22 Universal Monitoring System for K12 ESEA Federal Programs



## Appendix C

### Florida Department of Education Universal Risk Assessment Formula

# 2021-22 Universal Risk Assessment

#	Indicator	Low Risk Criteria: Value Points (pts)	Medium Risk Criteria: Value Points (pts)	High Risk Criteria: Value Points (pts)	Data Source
1	% of Schools in the District with Comprehensive Support & Improvement (CS&I) Status (most recent available)	Less than 10%: 5 pts	10% - 19.99%: 10 pts	20% or more: 15 pts	<a href="#">2018-2019 Federal Index and ESSA Support Categories, by School</a>
2	% of Schools in the District with Targeted Support & Improvement (TS&I) Status (most recent available)	Less than 50%: 3 pts	50% - 69.99%: 6 pts	70% or more: 10 pts	<a href="#">2018-2019 Federal Index and ESSA Support Categories, by School</a>
3	Total Allocation of Federal Grants, FY 2021-22	Less than \$3 million: 5 pts	\$3-10 million: 6 pts	More than \$10 million: 15 pts	Sum of preliminary 2021-22 Federal grant allocations for 7 programs within the consolidated application
4	Total Number of Federal Grants, FY 2021-22	3 grants or less: 3 pts	4 to 5 grants: 6 pts	6 -7 grants: 10 pts	Number of Federal grants per district for 2021-22 within the consolidated application
5	% of Unexpended Federal Grant Funds (2019-2020)	10.00% or less: 5 pts	10.01% - 20.00%: 10 pts	20.01% or more: 15 pts	Sum of unexpended funds from 2019-2020 FLAGS detail reports for 7 grants within the consolidated application
6	Timeliness of Grant Applications, FY 2021-22	90% to 100% on time: 3 pts	80% to 89.99% on time: 6 pts	Less than 80% on time: 10 pts	Timeliness of grant applications for 2021-22 fiscal year as indicated on internal ShareFile Tracker (excluding Title IV, Part A) as of 7/1/2021
7	The LEA's average school-level percentage of federal funds comprising the total per-pupil expenditure amount	Less than 7%: 3 pts	7.00% - 8.99%: 6 pts	9% or more: 10 pts	<a href="#">2018-19 School per-pupil expenditures report as of April 7, 2021</a>

## **Appendix D**

### **Proposed Position Description: FMVP Regional Navigator**

#### **Position Summary:**

FMVP Regional Navigator provides support to local school districts through identification of students experiencing homelessness and connecting children and families to resources.

#### **Education**

- Bachelor's degree

#### **Experience**

- Experience with assisting families and/or students with addressing educational and community support services needs
- Preferred: Social work or case management experience

#### **Salary**

\$50,000-55,000 year, based on experience and qualifications, as well as oversight

#### **Abilities and Characteristics**

- Ability to establish and maintain well-organized, efficient systems
- Knowledge of Title IX, Part A McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Ability to use discretion and maintain confidentiality
- Strong interpersonal skills that lead to an effective working relationship with all stakeholders
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Strong organizational and problem-solving skills
- Ability to meet tight deadlines, balance multiple and competing priorities and maintain goal-directed behavior and performance sometimes under stressful conditions
- Strong knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel, and Word programs
- Strong work ethic and organizational skills

#### **Responsibilities**

Within designated school districts, the FMVP Regional Navigator will:

- Determine needs of McKinney-Vento Program
- Assist school districts with identification of students experiencing homelessness and regular school attendance support
- Assist school districts with individual student needs assessments and referrals to educational and other support services
- Research businesses and organizations frequented by homeless populations and develop relationships with staff and service providers
- Provide training and awareness, as needed, to parents/guardians/unaccompanied homeless youth, school staff and community service providers
- Create a communication schedule with McKinney-Vento Program liaisons

*Note: Position is funded through federal funding available until September 30, 2024.*