

FAST FACTS

Calculating Title I-A Set-aside Funds for Homeless Services

All districts are required to set-aside Title I, Part A funds for homeless services. Below are five options districts have to choose from when determining their Title I, Part A set-aside amount for homeless services:

- Obtain a count of the number of children and youth experiencing homelessness as reported on STARS or to the district and multiply this number by your districts Title I, Part A per-pupil amount.
- Obtain a count of the number of children and youth experiencing homelessness as reported on the STARS or to the district and multiply this number by a minimum of \$500.00 per pupil identified.
- Reserve at least 30% of the total amount of McKinney-Vento grant funds awarded to the district.
- Reserve between 1% and 5% the district's Title I, Part A total allocation.
- Identify the needs of homeless children and youth and then fund accordingly by determining a figure of how much it costs to pay for services to homeless children and youth (i.e., supplemental education services, materials and supplies for those services, costs associated with successful transition, transportation, liaison salary, etc.).

The intent of Title I, Part A is to supplement educational activities provided through the school with other local, state, and federal programs. Therefore, before using set-aside funds, LEAs should consider resources available through other means and leverage them accordingly. Set-aside activities should be designed to assist homeless students with meeting state academic standards or to help them effectively take advantage of educational opportunities.

Examples of the use of Title I, Part A funds for homeless services include:

- Items of clothing, particularly if necessary to meet a school's dress or uniform requirement
- Clothing and shoes necessary to participate in physical education classes
- Student fees that are necessary to participate in the general education program
- Personal school supplies such as backpacks and notebooks
- Birth certificates necessary to enroll in school
- Immunizations
- Food
- Tutoring services, especially in shelters or other locations where homeless students live
- Fees for AP or IB testing
- Fees for SAT/ACT testing
- Medical and dental services
- Eyeglasses and hearing aids
- Counseling services to address anxiety related to homelessness that is impeding learning
- Outreach services to students living in shelters, motels, and other temporary residence
- Extended learning time (before and after school, Saturday classes, summer school) to compensate for lack of quiet time for homework in shelters or other overcrowded living conditions
- Parental involvement specifically oriented to reaching out to parents of homeless students
- GED testing for school-age students

NOTE: Other school and community resources must be exhausted before LEAs use the reservation of funds for homeless students to meet an identified need [20 U.S.C. § 6315(e)(2)].

Questions: If you have questions regarding this issue, please contact the Division of Student Support & Innovation at (888) 605-1951.