

FAST FACTS

Using Title I Homeless Set-Aside Funds

All public schools and districts receiving federal funds must ensure that services are provided to children and youth who are experiencing homelessness. To assist with these services, the law requires that school districts set aside Title I funds, as necessary, to provide services comparable to those that are provided to children in Title I, Part A funded schools. These funds can also support educationally related services to children in shelters and other locations where homeless children may live. The services provided with these funds should support homeless students to succeed in school and to meet the academic achievement standards.

Comparable services do not necessarily mean the same services; therefore, these funds may also be used to provide services that are not ordinarily provided to other Title I students.

If your district has students who meet the definition of homelessness according to McKinney-Vento, listed below are some strategies on how you may use your Title I homeless set-aside funds and/or McKinney-Vento funds. These funds can be used to assist homeless students in Title I and non-Title I schools.

- Support a portion of the local homeless liaison's position
- Case management
- Homeless awareness activities
- Testing fees
- Evaluations
- Before school/after school programs
- Homework assistance
- Mentoring
- Tutoring
- Supplemental instruction
- Enrichment activities
- School supplies
- Supplies for special projects (i.e., art, home economics, science)
- Clothing (i.e., physical education uniform, field trip necessities, school clothes, caps and gowns, uniforms, shoes)
- Activities fees
- Graduation fees
- Referrals for medical, dental, mental, and other health services
- Early childhood programs for homeless preschool age children
- Services to attract, engage, and retain homeless children in school
- Services to enable students to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school
- Fees and costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records of homeless students
- Violence prevention counseling
- Domestic violence counseling
- Parent education for parents of homeless students

Supplement, Not Supplant

Bear in mind that it is a requirement that federal Title I funds cannot supplant other state or local funds, but should supplement (expand on or increase) the current services offered. In other words, Title I funds cannot be used for initiatives that are a part of the core services provided by public schools and services that schools are required to provide (even in the absence of Title I funding).

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