

ESSA and Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY)

The recently enacted Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) increased the authorized funding level (maximum funding level) for the EHCY program to \$85 million, a 21 percent increase over the previous authorized level. ESSA also made numerous amendments to the EHCY program, including new requirements for appropriate capacity for state and local personnel, better identification of homeless children and youth, enhanced school stability, and special protections for preschool children and unaccompanied homeless youth.

- **Additional Information on ESSA changes to homeless education:**
 1. A bullet-point summary of the statutory changes: <http://www.naehcy.org/sites/default/files/dl/legis/ESEAFINALSUMMARYSHORTER.pdf>
 2. A redline (strike-through) of amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act: <http://www.naehcy.org/sites/default/files/dl/legis/MV2015strikethrough.pdf>
 3. A redline (strike-through) of the most relevant amendments to Title I Part A: <http://www.naehcy.org/sites/default/files/dl/legis/Title%20I%202015%20strikethrough.pdf>
 4. A webinar and PowerPoint presentation summarizing the major statutory changes: <http://www.naehcy.org/sites/default/files/webinars/ESEAHomelessDec2015.pptx>
- **Major Changes to the McKinney-Vento Act and Title I Part A Homeless Services**
 - State report cards must include disaggregated information on the graduation rates and academic achievement of homeless children and youth.
 - All LEAs that receive Title I Part A funds must reserve funds based on a needs assessment and the district's total Title I allocation to provide services to homeless children not ordinarily provided for other children.
 - Consolidated application for Title I funds must describe the services the district will provide to support the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth.
 - LEAs must adopt policies and practices to ensure that liaisons participate in professional development and other technical assistance activities provided by the State Homeless Coordinator
 - Liaisons must provide professional development to other school personnel.
 - Liaisons must coordinate services with the child welfare agency, social service agency, local housing agencies, law enforcement, childcare providers, runaway and homeless youth centers, shelters, transitional housing facilities, and providers of transitional living programs.