



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 23, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of the Title X McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant Criteria

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended in 2002, provides funding for programs to stimulate the development of policies and procedures to remove barriers for educating homeless students. The State Board of Education has previously approved the criteria for funding and required that the criteria incorporate specifications of the McKinney-Vento Act and the state plan.

Homeless student grants will be implemented and awarded up to a three (3) year competitive grant cycle as described in Attachment A. Consistent with the McKinney-Vento Act, public school academies and local and intermediate school districts may provide educational activities, such as tutorial programs, transportation, and counseling services, with grant funds.

The criteria have been amended to allow the Michigan Department of Education to initiate special projects to address known and unforeseen issues in homeless education (e.g., improvement of data collection; collaboration with community partners, agencies, and programs; enrichment programs; parent engagement initiatives; professional development).

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve criteria for the Title X McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated May 23, 2011.

Attachment

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MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for the Title X McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic performance of all students/children with major emphasis on the persistently lowest achieving schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal, and the Board's Vision and Principles of Universal Education.

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant supports the Board's strategic goal in that districts may attain substantial and meaningful improvement in the academic achievement of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

Competitive Formula New Continuation (*check all that apply*)

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a State Education Agency (SEA) that receives more than the minimum statutory allocation (\$150,000) must sub-grant at least 75 percent (75%) of its allocation to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) on a competitive basis. The grant criteria ensure that funds are awarded on the basis of need and the ability of the applicant to meet the identified needs of the homeless children, including facilitating the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved April 13, 2010

Defined in Statute Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder Proposed by Staff

Title X McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant

1. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will award subgrants to eligible applicants based on need for the grant; documented collaboration with other community agencies to coordinate services to homeless children and youth; ability to meet identified needs; complete, timely, and accurate reporting; and capacity of the applicant to coordinate services for homeless children and youth with other local and state programs (i.e., Title I, Part C Migrant; Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs; Title III, Part A Limited English Proficient; Special Education; Early Childhood Education, etc.).
2. Preference will be given to subgrantees that form consortia to serve regional areas.

3. Base grant amounts will be distributed to ensure that basic services can be provided to each grantee, particularly in sparsely populated areas and areas with high homeless populations. Base grant amounts will be determined annually by MDE staff, taking into account the distribution of homeless children throughout the state.
4. The grant cycle for McKinney-Vento funds will be up to three years to allow LEAs the time to establish and implement effective programs. The award will be made for one year with an opportunity for up to two one-year continuation awards, based on successful completion of the previous award, effective use of funds, continued availability of funding, and accurate and timely reporting of homeless children and youth served in grant reports and the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS).
5. Unspent prior year funds will be awarded based on availability. At the discretion of MDE staff, these funds may be redistributed:
 - To assist fiscal agents in serving homeless students not reported in the MSDS.
 - On a per pupil basis to all grant recipients.
 - According to other criteria developed by the staff of the Office of Field Services Special Populations Unit to address unforeseen issues in homeless education.
6. Up to \$150,000 of prior year unspent allocations may be set aside for emergency funding (e.g., a sudden influx of homeless students into a fiscal agent's service area).
7. Special projects may be initiated at the discretion of MDE staff to address specific needs of the field.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Local Educational Agencies, Intermediate School Districts, and Public School Academies

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$2,300,000 per federal fiscal year (estimated).

STATUTE

Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of Field Services, Special Populations Unit: Pam Kies-Lowe, Consultant; Shereen Tabrizi, Manager, and Mike Radke, Director