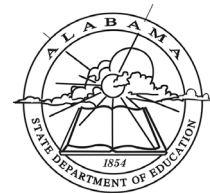




STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

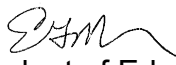


Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

July 15, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Application for Funds – Title IX, Part A – McKinney-Vento Homeless Subgrants--**REVISED**

We are pleased to announce the release of the Fiscal Year 2027 application for the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youths (HCY) Program. The application contains all regulatory requirements and a timeline of related expectations. The application will be available starting Monday, July 20, 2026, and can be located in [eGAP](#).

Funds will be awarded to eligible entities through a competitive grant application process for any Local Educational Agency seeking to provide an appropriate education program for HCY. Completed applications must be submitted to the Alabama State Department of Education by Thursday, **August 20, 2026**.

You may direct questions regarding this application to Mrs. LaDonna Rudolph, Homeless State Coordinator, by telephone at (334) 694-4534 or by email at ladonna.rudolph@alsde.edu.

EGM/MK/LR

FY26-2059

Alabama
State Board
of Education

Governor Kay Ivey
President

Jackie Zeigler
District I

Tracie West
District II

Kelly Mooney
District III
Vice President

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V

Marie Manning
District VI

Allen Long, M.D.
District VII
President Pro Tem

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

**ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Federal Programs Section
Montgomery, Alabama**

**Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program
Subgrant**

Subtitle VII-B the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act

CFDA #84.196A

Application



**DATED MATERIAL – OPEN IMMEDIATELY
Closing Date: August 20, 2026**

**Federal Programs Section
5348 Gordon Persons Building
50 North Ripley Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104**

**Telephone: 334-694-4516
Fax: 334-694-4965**

Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program

Subtitle VII-B the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act

Alabama State Department of Education, Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education

The Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, sex, religion, national origin, or age in their programs, activities, or employment and provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youths groups. The following person is responsible for handling inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator, Alabama State Department of Education, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, AL 36130-2101, telephone (334) 694-4900.

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program is to ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youths have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education that is provided to other children and youths.

**Application Available/Competition
Opens in eGAP:**

Monday, July 20, 2026

Deadline for Applications:

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Applications must be received by **Thursday, August 20, 2026**, to be considered for funding. There will be no exceptions to this submission requirement since this is a competitive application process. Applications will be submitted electronically through eGAP and must be **Local Education Agency (LEA) Superintendent/Authorized Representative Approved** in order to be read by the reviewers.

Awards Announced:

September 2026

Funds Available:

October 2026

Project Period:

October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

Eligible Applicants:

LEAs serving Homeless children and youths

Technical Assistance for Applicants

A technical assistance meeting will take place virtually to provide LEAs with assistance with completing the application. Notification with the time and link will be sent to Federal Program Coordinators before the meeting. For any LEAs unable to attend, the PowerPoint and recording will be made available in eGAP ALSDE Resources under the Homeless Education Program – McKinney-Vento Act section. Office Hours will be scheduled and information will be provided to assist LEAs throughout the grant process.

Special Note: Awards are made annually based on competition results. All funds should be budgeted and expended during the year of the award (no carryover).

The following application guidelines may be used to assist eligible LEAs in submitting their electronic applications:

An application must be submitted for each eligible LEA in eGAP. First-time applicants must obtain certain roles in eGAP to access the application. The LEA Superintendent or Chief School Financial Officer must grant the role of LEA Homeless Director. Each application must be reviewed and approved by the LEA Superintendent. The application must describe and include a summary or compilation of a Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) that has been conducted by the district and submitted in the eGAP application. The assessment must reflect a need for a homeless education program for the specific objectives and services proposed.

To receive McKinney-Vento grant funds, an LEA must demonstrate in its application the intent to provide an appropriate education program for homeless children and youths. At a minimum, the LEA application must include:

- An assessment of the educational and related needs of homeless children and youths in the area served by the LEA.
- A description of the services and programs for which assistance is sought to address the needs identified for homeless children and youths.
- A description of policies and procedures, consistent with Section 9102(e)(3), that the agency will implement to ensure that activities carried out by the agency will not isolate or stigmatize homeless children and youths.
- The plan must include the applicable program assurances and certifications.

The following application narrative guidelines may be used to complete the narrative sections of the electronic application.

Before preparing the application narrative, applicants should carefully review the programmatic requirements in Appendix A. Please note that narrative questions have a text limit of 3,000 characters per question. Applicants need to **Save Current Page** as they go through the application, for there is a 60-minute time limit per action.

Guidelines for Completing the Budget Narrative of the Application in eGAP

Indicate the total amount of McKinney-Vento grant funds being requested for the LEA within the budget line item and narrative sections of the application. The budget line item and the budget narrative amounts must match.

Allowable Uses of Funds

McKinney-Vento grant funds may be used to carry out educational programs for homeless children and youths, including the following:

- The provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services that are linked to the achievement of the same challenging state academic content standards and challenging state student academic achievement standards the state establishes for other children and youths.
- The provision of 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 students with limited English proficiency, services provided under Title I of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* or similar state or local programs, programs in vocational and technical education, and school nutrition programs).
- Professional development and other activities for educators and pupil services 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, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.
- The provision of referral services to homeless children and youths for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
- The provision of assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation for students under Section 11432(g)(4)(A) not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding where necessary to enable students to attend the school selected under Section 11432(g)(3).
- The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding for preschool-aged homeless children.
- The provision of services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, in public school programs and services provided to non-homeless children and youths.
- The provision of before-school and after-school, mentoring, and summer programs in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities.
- If necessary, the 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 medical records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services.

- The provision of education and training to the parents of homeless children and youths about the rights of, and resources available to, such children and youths.
- The development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to homeless children and youths, as described in Section 11432(g)(5).
- The provision of pupil 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.
- The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available under Subsection (a)(2) to provide services under this subsection.
- The provision of school supplies, including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations.
- The provision of other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school.

If funds will be used for staff, identify by position the personnel to be employed with McKinney-Vento grant funds or other resources; the period of time assigned to the project; and the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for each employee. This information should be recorded within the budget narrative and on the Application Details section of the application. No more than 40% of the total grant amount may be used for the LEA Homeless Liaison's salary and benefits. Employee benefits must be itemized and provide applicable rates. Benefits must be paid from the same source of funds as the salaries are paid.

Minimum Grant Award: \$10,000

Maximum Grant Award: Amount is based on the LEAs four-year average count of homeless students reported on the Application Details page of eGAP and any additional funds the LEA is eligible.

- Tier 1: 5-25 homeless students – maximum request up to \$15,000
- Tier 2: 26-50 homeless students – maximum request up to \$25,000
- Tier 3: 50-100 homeless students – maximum request up to \$35,000
- Tier 4: 100-200 homeless students – maximum request up to \$45,000
- Tier 5: 200-500 homeless students – maximum request up to \$75,000
- Tier 6: More than 500 homeless students – maximum request up to \$100,000

Additional Funds for LEAs with High Poverty or Title V

- LEAs that have a poverty rate of 75% or higher may request an additional amount up to \$10,000.
- LEAs that receive Title V funds may request an additional amount up to \$10,000.

- LEAs that have a poverty rate of 75% and receive Title V may request an additional amount up to \$15,000.

The amount requested should be based on the needs and previous expenses applied to homeless students. The amount requested in the system must be rounded up to the nearest dollar.

Administrative costs must comply with the 10% limit.

Funds may be used to support any costs for an approved expenditure; however, the applicant must adhere to the **supplement, not supplant**, requirements of the program.

Evaluation of Program

Program Evaluation Planning and Reporting Template found in the Related Documents in eGAP, under the Required Document Section, must be completed at the time of the application. LEAs are to complete the Planning Side of the template (first three columns) and post in the Related Documents Section in eGAP, under the Program Evaluation Heading. The last column on the template will be completed after the fiscal year and will need to describe the results these funds had on your homeless education program. If the LEA received a homeless competitive grant last school year, FY 26, then the LEA should also post the evaluation results for last year in the Related Documents Section.

Proposed Acquisitions of Capitalized Equipment

Prior approval is required for all capitalized equipment. Capitalized equipment is defined as all equipment with a unit cost of \$5,000 or more. The equipment should meet the following criteria:

- Retains its original shape and appearance with use.
- Under normal conditions, is expected to serve its intended purpose for longer than one year.
- Is non-expendable, that is, if the item is damaged or some of its parts are worn out, it is more feasible to repair the item than to replace it with a new unit.

An itemized list of "non-capitalized" equipment should be included in the budget narrative, and a supplemental inventory should be maintained and must be available for on-site review.

Non-capitalized equipment is an item that meets the criteria listed above but does not meet the cost criteria identified for capitalized equipment.

Selection Process and Criteria

Criteria for selection based on “need” will include the following:

- The extent to which the proposed use of funds will facilitate the enrollment, retention, and educational success of homeless children and youths.
- The extent to which the application reflects coordination with other local and state agencies that serve homeless children and youths and describes how the applicant will meet the requirements of Section 11432(g)(3).
- The extent to which the applicant demonstrates in the application and in current practice a commitment to education for all homeless children and youths.

Criteria for selection based on “quality of the application” will consider the following:

- The applicant’s needs assessment and the likelihood that the program presented in the application will meet such needs.
- The types, intensity, and coordination of the services to be provided under the program.
- The involvement of parents or guardians of homeless children or youths in the education of their children.
- The extent to which homeless children and youths will be integrated within the regular education program.
- The quality of the applicant's evaluation plan for the program.
- The extent to which services provided will be coordinated with other services available to homeless children and youths and their families, i.e., collaboration with other local agencies.
- Such other measures as the ALSDE considers indicative of a high-quality program (i.e., has the application been submitted to the State Coordinator expeditiously), such as the extent to which the LEA will provide case management or related services to unaccompanied youths.

Application Submission Information

Applications that do not have all required documents uploaded and narrative descriptions answered will receive an error and will not be able to submit the application in the eGAP system.

Once all errors are addressed in the system, LEAs will be able to submit their application. After all proposals have been read and scored by the review panel, the proposals will be ranked from highest to lowest according to their scores. **Scores that do not reach the cut score of 70 will not qualify for funding.** Final recommendations for awards will be made by the Federal Programs Department. The final decision to award a subgrant rests solely with the ALSDE.

An applicant who has submitted a proposal that the ALSDE does not fund has 30 calendar days after receiving notification that the proposal is not funded to request a copy of their review panel comments. If the applicant wishes to appeal the funding determination, they must follow the **Disapproval of an Application** procedures as outlined in Title 34, Subtitle A, Part 76, Subpart E, §76.401. Applicants can contact the Homeless State Coordinator or Homeless Program Administrator for additional assistance.

Subtitle VII-B the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
Program Subgrant

**HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM
RUBRIC**

FISCAL YEAR 2027

Application Detail Narratives	(42 possible points)
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------

Rating Guidelines

(Note that each section of the application will be scored separately. All pertinent information must be fully addressed in the appropriate section).

<i>Excellent</i>	Specific and comprehensive. Complete, detailed, and clearly articulated information as to how the criteria are met. Well-conceived, thoroughly developed with promising program impact. Comments are required.
<i>Good</i>	General but sufficient detail. Overall information as to how the criteria are met, but some areas are not fully explained and/or questions remain.
<i>Marginal</i>	Vague, not clearly or explicitly stated. Criteria appear to be minimally met, but limited information is provided about approach and strategies. Lacks focus and detail.
<i>Inadequate</i>	Does not meet the criteria, fails to provide information, provides inaccurate information, or provides information that requires substantial clarification as to how the criteria are met. Comments are required.

1. Does the LEA explain how the usage of funds will facilitate enrollment, retention, and education success of homeless students?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
2. Does the LEA explain the impact of the Community Partnerships that support Homeless children and youths within the district?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
3. Does the LEA describe past programming efforts and include data that can provide insight into the academic and social/emotional needs of homeless students?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
4. Does the LEA describe the Needs Assessment process and how the LEA will jointly plan with all stakeholders to support the implementation of the grant? NOTE: The description must address school stability, academic progress, evidence-based strategies, and social/emotional learning for homeless students in the district.	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>

5. Does the LEA describe what services or resources are provided by district personnel and/or local school staff that contribute to increase the capacity to implement the grant?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
6. Does the LEA describe how they will provide opportunities for parents or guardians of homeless students to be involved in the education of their children? NOTE: Preschool children must be addressed in this question.	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
7. Does the LEA describe how Unaccompanied Homeless Youths (UHY) and Runways are supported?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
8. Did the LEA describe how homeless students will be integrated and not segregated within the regular education program?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
9. Did the LEA describe how homeless students are provided opportunities for Career and Technical Education (CTE), dual enrollment, credit accrual, and grade recovery due to homelessness and high mobility?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
10. Does the LEA describe what is in place to identify preschool siblings when a homeless child or youths is enrolled in the LEA?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
11. Does the LEA describe how they will address the educational needs of preschool homeless children?	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
12. Did the LEA describe the Professional Development Plan for individuals connected to homeless education and did the description include all stakeholders? NOTE: Stakeholders must include certified staff, classified staff, temporary staff, and preschool partners.	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
13. Did the LEA give an appropriate timeline for the implementation of the grant?	Excellent 3 Timeline is from October 1 st to September 30 th of the grant year	Good 2 Timeline only includes a portion of the grant year	Marginal 1 Timeline starts before October 1 st or continues past September 30 th of the grant year	Inadequate 0 No Timeline provided	<u>Comments</u>

14. Did the LEA explain how the program will sustain itself if funding is reduced or ended? NOTE: The description must include other funding source(s) and personnel needed to continue the program.	Excellent 3	Good 2	Marginal 1	Inadequate 0	<u>Comments</u>
---	------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------	------------------------

Application Detail and Budget Narrative Alignment	(18 possible points)
--	-----------------------------

15. Are the ranked needs included within the Allowable Activities Grid on the Application Details page?	6 Ranking Matches Allowable Activities Grid	3 Ranking Partially Matches Allowable Activities Grid	0 Ranking Does Not Match Allowable Activities Grid	<u>Comments</u>
16. Are the amounts on the Allowable Activities Grid on the Application Details page aligned with the budget narrative?	6 Allowable Activities Grid Matches Budget Narrative	3 Allowable Activities Grid Partially Matches Budget Narrative	0 Activities Grid Does Not Match Budget Narrative	<u>Comments</u>
17. Are the Personnel and FTEs on the Application Details page aligned with the budget narrative?	6 Yes	6 No Funds Budgeted for Personnel	0 No	<u>Comments</u>

Required Documentation and Support Questions	(20 possible points)
---	-----------------------------

18. Did the LEA upload Community Partnership letters (on community partner letterhead) under the Related Documents section, which explain the extent of the partnership?	10 Yes – Two Letters	5 Yes – One Letter	0 No	<u>Comments</u>
19. Did the LEA upload the required evaluation templates under the Related Documents section?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>	
20. Does the LEA describe key strategies in the current year evaluation template that match the budget narrative?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>	

Budget Requirements		(20 possible points)	
21. Does the LEA comply with the 10% Administrative Cost Provision?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>
22. Does the LEA comply with the 40% cap on the Homeless Liaison Salary?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>
23. Is the LEA specific on how they proposed to spend the funds?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>
24. Are all expenditures in the budget submitted by the LEA allowable based on the RFP?	5 Yes	0 No	<u>Comments</u>

APPENDIX A

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youths Act of 2001

42 U.S.C. § 11431 - STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following is the policy of the Congress:

- (1) Each State educational agency shall ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youths has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.
- (2) In any State that has a compulsory residency requirement as a component of the State's compulsory school attendance laws or other laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths, the State will review and undertake steps to revise such laws, regulations, practices, or policies to ensure that homeless children and youths are afforded the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths.
- (3) Homelessness alone is not sufficient reason to separate students from the mainstream school environment.
- (4) Homeless children and youths should have access to the education and other services that such children and youths need to ensure that such children and youths have an opportunity to meet the same challenging State student academic achievement standards to which all students are held.

42 U.S.C. § 11432 - GRANTS FOR STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY - The Secretary is authorized to make grants to States in accordance with the provisions of this section to enable such States to carry out the activities described in subsections (d) through (g) of this section.

(b) APPLICATION - No State may receive a grant under this section unless the State educational agency submits an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(c) ALLOCATION AND RESERVATIONS

(1) ALLOCATION –

(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary is authorized to allot to each State an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount appropriated for such year under section [11435](#) of this title that remains after the Secretary reserves funds under paragraph (2) and uses funds to carry out section [11434 \(d\)](#) and (h) of this title, as the amount allocated under section 1122 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [[20 U.S.C. 6332](#)] to the State for that year bears to the total amount allocated under section 1122 of such Act to all States for that year, except that no State shall receive less than the greater of—

- (i) \$150,000;
- (ii) one-fourth of 1 percent of the amount appropriated under section [11435](#) of this title for that year; or
- (iii) the amount such State received under this section for fiscal year 2001.

(B) If there are insufficient funds in a fiscal year to allot to each State the minimum amount under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall ratably reduce the allotments to all States based on the proportionate share that each State received under this subsection for the preceding fiscal year.

(2) RESERVATIONS –

(A) The Secretary is authorized to reserve 0.1 percent of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year under section [11435](#) of this title to be allocated by the Secretary among the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, according to their respective need for assistance under this part, as determined by the Secretary.

(B)(i) The Secretary shall transfer 1 percent of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year under section [11435](#) of this title to the Department of the Interior for programs for Indian students served by schools funded by the Secretary of the Interior, as determined under the *Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act* ([25](#) U.S.C. [450](#) et seq.), that are consistent with the purposes of the programs described in this part.

(ii) The Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior shall enter into an agreement, consistent with the requirements of this part, for the distribution and use of the funds described in clause (i) under terms that the Secretary determines best meet the purposes of the programs described in this part. Such agreement shall set forth the plans of the Secretary of the Interior for the use of the amounts transferred, including appropriate goals, objectives, and milestones.

(3) STATE DEFINED - For purposes of this subsection, the term “State” does not include the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(d) ACTIVITIES - Grants under this section shall be used for the following:

(1) To carry out the policies set forth in section [11431](#) of this title in the State.

(2) To provide activities for, and services to, homeless children, including preschool-aged homeless children, and youths that enable such children and youths to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school, or, if appropriate, in preschool programs.

(3) To establish or designate an Office of Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths in the State educational agency in accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

(4) To prepare and carry out the State plan described in subsection (g) of this section.

(5) To develop and implement professional development programs for school personnel to heighten their awareness of, and capacity to respond to, specific problems in the education of homeless children and youths.

(e) STATE AND LOCAL SUBGRANTS

(1) MINIMUM DISBURSEMENTS BY STATES - From the sums made available each year to carry out this part, the State educational agency shall distribute not less than 75 percent in subgrants to local educational agencies for the purposes of carrying out section [11433](#) of this title, except that States funded at the minimum level set forth in subsection (c)(1) of this section shall distribute not less than 50 percent in subgrants to local educational agencies for the purposes of carrying out section [11433](#) of this title.

(2) USE BY STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY - A State educational agency may use funds made available for State use under this part to conduct activities under subsection (f) of this section directly or through grants or contracts.

(3) PROHIBITION ON SEGREGATING HOMELESS STUDENTS

(A) IN GENERAL - Except as provided in subparagraph (B) and section [11433](#) [\(a\)\(2\)\(B\)\(ii\)](#) of this title, in providing a free public education to a homeless child or youths, no State receiving funds under this part shall segregate such child or youths in a separate school, or in a separate program within a school, based on such child’s or youths’s status as homeless.

(B) EXCEPTION - Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), paragraphs (1)(J)(i) and (3) of subsection (g) of this section, section [11433 \(a\)\(2\)](#) of this title, and any other provision of this part relating to the placement of homeless children or youths in schools, a State that has a separate school for homeless children or youths that was operated in fiscal year 2000 in a covered county shall be eligible to receive funds under this part for programs carried out in such school if—

- (i) the school meets the requirements of subparagraph (C);
- (ii) any local educational agency serving a school that the homeless children and youths enrolled in the separate school are eligible to attend meets the requirements of subparagraph (E); and
- (iii) the State is otherwise eligible to receive funds under this part.

(C) SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS - For the State to be eligible under subparagraph (B) to receive funds under this part, the school described in such subparagraph shall—

- (i) provide written notice, at the time any child or youths seeks enrollment in such school, and at least twice annually while the child or youths is enrolled in such school, to the parent or guardian of the child or youths (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the youths) that—

- (I) shall be signed by the parent or guardian (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the youths);

- (II) sets forth the general rights provided under this part;

- (III) specifically states—

- (aa) the choice of schools homeless children and youths are eligible to attend, as provided in subsection (g)(3)(A) of this section;

- (bb) that no homeless child or youths is required to attend a separate school for homeless children or youths;

- (cc) that homeless children and youths shall be provided comparable services described in subsection (g)(4) of this section, including transportation services, educational services, and meals through school meals programs; and

- (dd) that homeless children and youths should not be stigmatized by school personnel; and

- (IV) provides contact information for the local liaison for homeless children and youths and the State Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths;

- (ii)(I) provide assistance to the parent or guardian of each homeless child or youths (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the youths) to exercise the right to attend the parent's or guardian's (or youths's) choice of schools, as provided in subsection (g)(3)(A) of this section; and

- (II) coordinate with the local educational agency with jurisdiction for the school selected by the parent or guardian (or youths), to provide transportation and other necessary services;

- (iii) ensure that the parent or guardian (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the youths) shall receive the information required by this subparagraph in a manner and form understandable to such parent or guardian (or youths), including, if necessary and to the extent feasible, in the native language of such parent or guardian (or youths); and

- (iv) demonstrate in the school's application for funds under this part that such school—

- (I) is complying with clauses (i) and (ii); and

(II) is meeting (as of the date of submission of the application) the same Federal and State standards, regulations, and mandates as other public schools in the State (such as complying with sections 1111 and 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [[20 U.S.C. 6311](#), [6316](#)] and providing a full range of education and related services, including services applicable to students with disabilities).

(D) SCHOOL INELIGIBILITY - A separate school described in subparagraph (B) that fails to meet the standards, regulations, and mandates described in subparagraph (C)(iv)(II) shall not be eligible to receive funds under this part for programs carried out in such school after the first date of such failure.

(E) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY REQUIREMENTS - For the State to be eligible to receive the funds described in subparagraph (B), the local educational agency described in subparagraph (B)(ii) shall—

(i) implement a coordinated system for ensuring that homeless children and youths—

(I) are advised of the choice of schools provided in subsection (g)(3)(A) of this section;

(II) are immediately enrolled, in accordance with subsection (g)(3)(C) of this section, in the school selected under subsection (g)(3)(A) of this section; and

(III) are promptly provided necessary services described in subsection (g)(4) of this section, including transportation, to allow homeless children and youths to exercise their choices of schools under subsection (g)(3)(A) of this section;

(ii) document that written notice has been provided—

(I) in accordance with subparagraph (C)(i) for each child or youths enrolled in a separate school under subparagraph (B); and

(II) in accordance with subsection (g)(6)(A)(v) of this section;

(iii) prohibit schools within the agency's jurisdiction from referring homeless children or youths to, or requiring homeless children and youths to enroll in or attend, a separate school described in subparagraph (B);

(iv) identify and remove any barriers that exist in schools within the agency's jurisdiction that may have contributed to the creation or existence of separate schools described in subparagraph (B); and

(v) not use funds received under this part to establish—

(I) new or additional separate schools for homeless children or youths; or

(II) new or additional sites for separate schools for homeless children or youths, other than the sites occupied by the schools described in subparagraph (B) in fiscal year 2000.

(F) REPORT –

(i) Preparation The Secretary shall prepare a report on the separate schools and local educational agencies described in subparagraph (B) that receive funds under this part in accordance with this paragraph. The report shall contain, at a minimum, information on—

(I) compliance with all requirements of this paragraph;

(II) barriers to school access in the school districts served by the local educational agencies; and

(III) the progress the separate schools are making in integrating homeless children and youths into the mainstream school environment, including the average length of student enrollment in such schools.

(ii) Compliance with information requests For purposes of enabling the Secretary to prepare the report, the separate schools and local educational agencies shall cooperate with the Secretary and the State Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths established in the State under subsection (d)(3) of this section, and shall comply with any requests for information by the Secretary and State Coordinator for such State.

(iii) Submission Not later than 2 years after January 8, 2002, the Secretary shall submit the report described in clause (i) to—

(I) the President;

(II) the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives; and

(III) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

(G) DEFINITION - For purposes of this paragraph, the term “covered county” means—

(i) San Joaquin County, California;

(ii) Orange County, California;

(iii) San Diego County, California; and

(iv) Maricopa County, Arizona.

(f) FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF COORDINATOR - The Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths established in each State shall—

(1) gather reliable, valid, and comprehensive information on the nature and extent of the problems homeless children and youths have in gaining access to public preschool programs and to public elementary schools and secondary schools, the difficulties in identifying the special needs of such children and youths, any progress made by the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State in addressing such problems and difficulties, and the success of the programs under this part in allowing homeless children and youths to enroll in, attend, and succeed in, school;

(2) develop and carry out the State plan described in subsection (g) of this section;

(3) collect and transmit to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require, a report containing such information as the Secretary determines is necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children and youths within the State;

(4) facilitate coordination between the State educational agency, the State social services agency, and other agencies (including agencies providing mental health services) to provide services to homeless children, including preschool-aged homeless children and youths, and to families of such children and youths;

(5) in order to improve the provision of comprehensive education and related services to homeless children and youths and their families, coordinate and collaborate with—

(A) educators, including child development and preschool program personnel;

(B) providers of services to homeless and runaway children and youths and homeless families (including domestic violence agencies, shelter operators, transitional housing facilities, runaway and homeless youths centers, and transitional living programs for homeless youths);

(C) local educational agency liaisons designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) of this section for homeless children and youths; and

(D) community organizations and groups representing homeless children and youths and their families; and

(6) provide technical assistance to local educational agencies in coordination with local educational agency liaisons designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) of this section, to ensure that local educational agencies comply with the requirements of subsection (e)(3) of this section and paragraphs (3) through (7) of subsection (g) of this section.

(g) STATE PLAN

(1) IN GENERAL - Each State shall submit to the Secretary a plan to provide for the education of homeless children and youths within the State. Such plan shall include the following:

- (A) A description of how such children and youths are (or will be) given the opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic achievement standards all students are expected to meet.
- (B) A description of the procedures the State educational agency will use to identify such children and youths in the State and to assess their special needs.
- (C) A description of procedures for the prompt resolution of disputes regarding the educational placement of homeless children and youths.
- (D) A description of programs for school personnel (including principals, attendance officers, teachers, enrollment personnel, and pupil services personnel) to heighten the awareness of such personnel of the specific needs of runaway and homeless youths.
- (E) A description of procedures that ensure that homeless children and youths who meet the relevant eligibility criteria are able to participate in Federal, State, or local food programs.
- (F) A description of procedures that ensure that—
 - (i) homeless children have equal access to the same public preschool programs, administered by the State agency, as provided to other children in the State;
 - (ii) homeless youths and youths separated from the public schools are identified and accorded equal access to appropriate secondary education and support services; and
 - (iii) homeless children and youths who meet the relevant eligibility criteria are able to participate in Federal, State, or local before- and after-school care programs.
- (G) Strategies to address problems identified in the report provided to the Secretary under subsection (f)(3) of this section.
- (H) Strategies to address other problems with respect to the education of homeless children and youths, including problems resulting from enrollment delays that are caused by—
 - (i) immunization and medical records requirements;
 - (ii) residency requirements;
 - (iii) lack of birth certificates, school records, or other documentation;
 - (iv) guardianship issues; or
 - (v) uniform or dress code requirements.
- (I) A demonstration that the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State have developed, and shall review and revise policies to remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youths in schools in the State.
- (J) Assurances that—
 - (i) the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State will adopt policies and practices to ensure that homeless children and youths are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless;
 - (ii) local educational agencies will designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths, to carry out the duties described in paragraph (6)(A); and
 - (iii) the State and its local educational agencies will adopt policies and practices to ensure that transportation is provided, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the liaison), to and from the school of origin, as determined in paragraph (3)(A), in accordance with the following, as applicable:

(I) If the homeless child or youths continues to live in the area served by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located, the child's or youths's transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located.

(II) If the homeless child's or youths's living arrangements in the area served by the local educational agency of origin terminate and the child or youths, though continuing his or her education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another local educational agency, the local educational agency of origin and the local educational agency in which the homeless child or youths is living shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the local educational agencies are unable to agree upon such method, the responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally.

(2) COMPLIANCE

(A) IN GENERAL - Each plan adopted under this subsection shall also describe how the State will ensure that local educational agencies in the State will comply with the requirements of paragraphs (3) through (7).

(B) COORDINATION - Such plan shall indicate what technical assistance the State will furnish to local educational agencies and how compliance efforts will be coordinated with the local educational agency liaisons designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii).

(3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

(A) In general - The local educational agency serving each child or youths to be assisted under this part shall, according to the child's or youths's best interest—

(i) continue the child's or youths's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness—

(I) in any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; or

(II) for the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youths becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or

(ii) enroll the child or youths in any public school that nonhomeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youths is actually living are eligible to attend.

(B) BEST INTEREST - In determining the best interest of the child or youths under subparagraph (A), the local educational agency shall—

(i) to the extent feasible, keep a homeless child or youths in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the child's or youths's parent or guardian;

(ii) provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal under subparagraph (E), to the homeless child's or youths's parent or guardian, if the local educational agency sends such child or youths to a school other than the school of origin or a school requested by the parent or guardian; and

(iii) in the case of an unaccompanied youths, ensure that the homeless liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii) assists in placement or enrollment decisions under this subparagraph, considers the views of such unaccompanied youths, and provides notice to such youths of the right to appeal under subparagraph (E).

(C) ENROLLMENT

(i) The school selected in accordance with this paragraph shall immediately enroll the homeless child or youths, even if the child or youths is unable to produce records

normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, proof of residency, or other documentation.

(ii) The enrolling school shall immediately contact the school last attended by the child or youths to obtain relevant academic and other records.

(iii) If the child or youths needs to obtain immunizations, or immunization or medical records, the enrolling school shall immediately refer the parent or guardian of the child or youths to the local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations, or immunization or medical records, in accordance with subparagraph (D).

(D) RECORDS - Any record ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization or medical records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs regarding each homeless child or youths shall be maintained—

(i) so that the records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youths enters a new school or school district; and

(ii) in a manner consistent with section [1232 \(g\)](#) of title [20](#).

(E) ENROLLMENT DISPUTES - If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school—

(i) the child or youths shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute;

(ii) the parent or guardian of the child or youths shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or youths to appeal the decision;

(iii) the child, youths, parent, or guardian shall be referred to the local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as described in paragraph (1)(C) as expeditiously as possible after receiving notice of the dispute; and

(iv) in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the homeless liaison shall ensure that the youths is immediately enrolled in school pending resolution of the dispute.

(F) PLACEMENT CHOICE - The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the child or youths lives with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.

(G) SCHOOL OF ORIGIN DEFINED - In this paragraph, the term “school of origin” means the school that the child or youths attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youths was last enrolled.

(H) CONTACT INFORMATION - Nothing in this part shall prohibit a local educational agency from requiring a parent or guardian of a homeless child to submit contact information.

(4) COMPARABLE SERVICES - Each homeless child or youths to be assisted under this part shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected under paragraph (3), including the following:

(A) Transportation services.

(B) Educational services for which the child or youths meets the eligibility criteria, such as services provided under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [[20 U.S.C. 6301](#) et seq.] or similar State or local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for students with limited English proficiency.

(C) Programs in vocational and technical education.

(D) Programs for gifted and talented students.

(E) School nutrition programs.

(5) COORDINATION

(A) IN GENERAL - Each local educational agency serving homeless children and youths that receives assistance under this part shall coordinate—

- (i) the provision of services under this part with local social services agencies and other agencies or programs providing services to homeless children and youths and their families, including services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youths Act ([42 U.S.C. 5701](#) et seq.); and
- (ii) with other local educational agencies on interdistrict issues, such as transportation or transfer of school records.

(B) HOUSING ASSISTANCE - If applicable, each State educational agency and local educational agency that receives assistance under this part shall coordinate with State and local housing agencies responsible for developing the comprehensive housing affordability strategy described in section [12705](#) of this title to minimize educational disruption for children and youths who become homeless.

(C) COORDINATION PURPOSE - The coordination required under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be designed to—

- (i) ensure that homeless children and youths have access and reasonable proximity to available education and related support services; and
- (ii) raise the awareness of school personnel and service providers of the effects of short-term stays in a shelter and other challenges associated with homelessness.

(6) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY LIAISON

(A) DUTIES - Each local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths, designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), shall ensure that—

- (i) homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
- (ii) homeless children and youths enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, schools of that local educational agency;
- (iii) homeless families, children, and youths receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible, including Head Start and Even Start programs and preschool programs administered by the local educational agency, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services;
- (iv) the parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
- (v) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated where such children and youths receive services under this chapter, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens;
- (vi) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with paragraph (3)(E); and
- (vii) the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youths, and any unaccompanied youths, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, as described in paragraph (1)(J)(iii), and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected under paragraph (3)(A).

(B) NOTICE - State coordinators established under subsection (d)(3) of this section and local educational agencies shall inform school personnel, service providers, and advocates working with homeless families of the duties of the local educational agency liaisons.

(C) LOCAL AND STATE COORDINATION - Local educational agency liaisons for homeless children and youths shall, as a part of their duties, coordinate and collaborate with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.

(7) REVIEW AND REVISIONS

(A) IN GENERAL - Each State educational agency and local educational agency that receives assistance under this part shall review and revise any policies that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths in schools that are selected under paragraph (3).

(B) CONSIDERATION - In reviewing and revising such policies, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship.

(C) SPECIAL ATTENTION - Special attention shall be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school.

42 U.S.C. § 11433 - LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY SUBGRANTS FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY

(1) IN GENERAL - The State educational agency shall, in accordance with section [11432 \(e\)](#) of this title, and from amounts made available to such agency under section [11435](#) of this title, make subgrants to local educational agencies for the purpose of facilitating the enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youths.

(2) SERVICES

(A) IN GENERAL - Services under paragraph (1)—

- (i) may be provided through programs on school grounds or at other facilities;
- (ii) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be provided through existing programs and mechanisms that integrate homeless children and youths with nonhomeless children and youths; and
- (iii) shall be designed to expand or improve services provided as part of a school's regular academic program, but not to replace such services provided under such program.

(B) SERVICES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS - If services under paragraph (1) are provided on school grounds, schools—

- (i) may use funds under this part to provide the same services to other children and youths who are determined by the local educational agency to be at risk of failing in, or dropping out of, school, subject to the requirements of clause (ii); and
- (ii) except as otherwise provided in section [11432 \(e\)\(3\)\(B\)](#) of this title, shall not provide services in settings within a school that segregate homeless children and youths from other children and youths, except as necessary for short periods of time—
 - (I) for health and safety emergencies; or
 - (II) to provide temporary, special, and supplementary services to meet the unique needs of homeless children and youths.

(3) REQUIREMENT - Services provided under this section shall not replace the regular academic program and shall be designed to expand upon or improve services provided as part of the school's regular academic program.

(b) APPLICATION - A local educational agency that desires to receive a subgrant under this section shall submit an application to the State educational agency at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the State educational agency may reasonably require. Such application shall include the following:

- (1) An assessment of the educational and related needs of homeless children and youths in the area served by such agency (which may be undertaken as part of needs assessments for other disadvantaged groups).

- (2) A description of the services and programs for which assistance is sought to address the needs identified in paragraph (1).
- (3) An assurance that the local educational agency's combined fiscal effort per student, or the aggregate expenditures of that agency and the State with respect to the provision of free public education by such agency for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made, was not less than 90 percent of such combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made.
- (4) An assurance that the applicant complies with, or will use requested funds to comply with, paragraphs (3) through (7) of section [11432 \(g\)](#) of this title.
- (5) A description of policies and procedures, consistent with section [11432 \(e\)\(3\)](#) of this title, that the agency will implement to ensure that activities carried out by the agency will not isolate or stigmatize homeless children and youths.

(c) AWARDS

(1) IN GENERAL - The State educational agency shall, in accordance with the requirements of this part and from amounts made available to it under section [11435](#) of this title, make competitive subgrants to local educational agencies that submit applications under subsection (b) of this section. Such subgrants shall be awarded on the basis of the need of such agencies for assistance under this part and the quality of the applications submitted.

(2) NEED - In determining need under paragraph (1), the State educational agency may consider the number of homeless children and youths enrolled in preschool, elementary, and secondary schools within the area served by the local educational agency, and shall consider the needs of such children and youths and the ability of the local educational agency to meet such needs. The State educational agency may also consider the following:

- (A) The extent to which the proposed use of funds will facilitate the enrollment, retention, and educational success of homeless children and youths.
- (B) The extent to which the application—
 - (i) reflects coordination with other local and State agencies that serve homeless children and youths; and
 - (ii) describes how the applicant will meet the requirements of section [11432 \(g\)\(3\)](#) of this title.
- (C) The extent to which the applicant exhibits in the application and in current practice a commitment to education for all homeless children and youths.
- (D) Such other criteria as the State agency determines appropriate.

(3) QUALITY - In determining the quality of applications under paragraph (1), the State educational agency shall consider the following:

- (A) The applicant's needs assessment under subsection (b)(1) of this section and the likelihood that the program presented in the application will meet such needs.
- (B) The types, intensity, and coordination of the services to be provided under the program.
- (C) The involvement of parents or guardians of homeless children or youths in the education of their children.
- (D) The extent to which homeless children and youths will be integrated within the regular education program.
- (E) The quality of the applicant's evaluation plan for the program.
- (F) The extent to which services provided under this part will be coordinated with other services available to homeless children and youths, and their families.
- (G) Such other measures as the State educational agency considers indicative of a high-quality program, such as the extent to which the local educational agency will provide case management or related services to unaccompanied youths.

(4) DURATION OF GRANTS - Grants awarded under this section shall be for terms not to exceed 3 years.

(d) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES - A local educational agency may use funds awarded under this section for activities that carry out the purpose of this part, including the following:

- (1) The provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services that are linked to the achievement of the same challenging State academic content standards and challenging State student academic achievement standards the State establishes for other children and youths.
- (2) The provision of 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 students with limited English proficiency, services provided under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [[20 U.S.C. 6301](#) et seq.] or similar State or local programs, programs in vocational and technical education, and school nutrition programs).
- (3) Professional development and other activities for educators and pupil services 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 part, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.
- (4) The provision of referral services to homeless children and youths for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
- (5) The provision of assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation for students under section [11432 \(g\)\(4\)\(A\)](#) of this title, not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, where necessary to enable students to attend the school selected under section [11432 \(g\)\(3\)](#) of this title.
- (6) The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs, not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, for preschool-aged homeless children.
- (7) The provision of services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, in public school programs and services provided to nonhomeless children and youths.
- (8) The provision for 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.
- (9) If necessary, the 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 medical records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services.
- (10) The provision of education and training to the parents of homeless children and youths about the rights of and resources available to such children and youths.
- (11) The development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to homeless children and youths, as described in section [11432 \(g\)\(5\)](#) of this title.
- (12) The provision of pupil services (including violence prevention counseling) and referrals for such services.
- (13) Activities to address the particular needs of homeless children and youths that may arise from domestic violence.
- (14) The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any nonschool facilities made available under subsection (a)(2) of this section to provide services under this subsection.
- (15) The provision of school supplies, including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations.
- (16) The provision of other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school.

42 U.S.C. § 11434 - SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) REVIEW OF STATE PLANS - In reviewing the State plan submitted by a State educational agency under section [11432 \(g\)](#) of this title, the Secretary shall use a peer review process and shall evaluate whether State laws, policies, and practices described in such plan adequately address the problems of homeless children and youths relating to access to education and placement as described in such plan.

(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - The Secretary shall provide support and technical assistance to a State educational agency to assist such agency in carrying out its responsibilities under this part, if requested by the State educational agency.

(c) NOTICE - The Secretary shall, before the next school year that begins after January 8, 2002, create and disseminate nationwide a public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths and disseminate such notice to other Federal agencies, programs, and grantees, including Head Start grantees, Health Care for the Homeless grantees, Emergency Food and Shelter grantees, and homeless assistance programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(d) EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION - The Secretary shall conduct evaluation and dissemination activities of programs designed to meet the educational needs of homeless elementary and secondary school students and may use funds appropriated under section [11435](#) of this title to conduct such activities.

(e) SUBMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION - The Secretary shall require applications for grants under this part to be submitted to the Secretary not later than the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the date that funds are available for purposes of making such grants and shall make such grants not later than the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on such date.

(f) DETERMINATION BY SECRETARY - The Secretary, based on the information received from the States and information gathered by the Secretary under subsection (h) of this section, shall determine the extent to which State educational agencies are ensuring that each homeless child and homeless youths has access to a free appropriate public education, as described in section [11431 \(1\)](#) of this title.

(g) GUIDELINES - The Secretary shall develop, issue, and publish in the Federal Register, not later than 60 days after January 8, 2002, school enrollment guidelines for States with respect to homeless children and youths. The guidelines shall describe—

- (1) successful ways in which a State may assist local educational agencies to immediately enroll homeless children and youths in school; and
- (2) how a State can review the State's requirements regarding immunization and medical or school records and make such revisions to the requirements as are appropriate and necessary in order to enroll homeless children and youths in school immediately.

(h) INFORMATION

(1) IN GENERAL - From funds appropriated under section [11435](#) of this title, the Secretary shall, directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, periodically collect and disseminate data and information regarding—

- (A) the number and location of homeless children and youths;
- (B) the education and related services such children and youths receive;
- (C) the extent to which the needs of homeless children and youths are being met; and
- (D) such other data and information as the Secretary determines to be necessary and relevant to carry out this part.

(2) COORDINATION - The Secretary shall coordinate such collection and dissemination with other agencies and entities that receive assistance and administer programs under this part.

(i) REPORT - Not later than 4 years after January 8, 2002, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the President and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the status of education of homeless children and youths, which shall include information on—

- (1) the education of homeless children and youths; and
- (2) the actions of the Secretary and the effectiveness of the programs supported under this part.

42 U.S.C. § 11434a – DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this part:

- (1) The terms “enroll” and “enrollment” include attending classes and participating fully in school activities.
- (2) The term “homeless children and youths”—
 - (A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section [11302 \(a\)\(1\)](#) of this title); and
 - (B) includes—
 - (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
 - (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section [11302 \(a\)\(2\)\(C\)](#) ^[1] of this title);
 - (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
 - (iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section [6399](#) of title [20](#)) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this part because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).
- (3) The terms “local educational agency” and “State educational agency” have the meanings given such terms in section [7801](#) of title [20](#).
- (4) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Education.
- (5) The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- (6) The term “unaccompanied youths” includes a youths not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

42 U.S.C. § 11435 - AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

For the purpose of carrying out this part, there are authorized to be appropriated \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 and such sums as may be necessary for each subsequent fiscal year.

APPENDIX B
One Hundred Twentieth Congress of the United States of America
AT THE FIRST SESSION

THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT, EXCERPTED

TITLE IX—EDUCATION FOR THE HOMELESS AND OTHER LAWS PART A—HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

SEC. 9101. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

Section 721 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “In any State” and all that follows through “will review” and inserting “In any State where compulsory residency requirements or other requirements, in laws, regulations, practices, or policies, may act as a barrier to the identification of, or the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of, homeless children and youths, the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State will review”;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “alone”; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking “challenging State student academic achievement standards” and inserting “challenging State academic standards”.

SEC. 9102. GRANTS FOR STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES.

Section 722 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) GRANTS FROM ALLOTMENTS. —The Secretary shall make the grants to States from the allotments made under subsection(c)(1).”;

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “To provide” and all that follows through “that enable” and inserting “To provide services and activities to improve the identification of homeless children and youths (including preschool-aged homeless children) and enable”; and

(ii) by striking “or, if” and inserting “including, if”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “designate” and all that follows and inserting “designate in the State educational agency an Office of the Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths that can sufficiently carry out the duties described for the Office in this subtitle in accordance with subsection (f).”; and

(C) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

“(5) To develop and implement professional development programs for liaisons designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) and other local educational agency personnel—

“(A) to improve their identification of homeless children and youths; and

“(B) to heighten the awareness of the liaisons and personnel of, and their capacity to respond to, specific needs in the education of homeless children and youths.”;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “a State through grants under subsection (a) to” after “each year to”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “funds made available for State use under this subtitle” and inserting “the grant funds remaining after the State educational agency distributes subgrants under paragraph (1)”;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (C)(iv)(II), by striking “sections 1111 and 1116” and inserting “section 1111”;

(ii) in subparagraph (E)(ii)(II), by striking “subsection (g)(6)(A)(v)” and inserting “subsection (g)(6)(A)(vi)”;

(iii) in subparagraph (F)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “and” at the end of subclause (II);

(bb) by striking the period at the end of subclause (III) and inserting “; and”;

(cc) by adding at the end the following:

“(IV) the progress the separate schools are making in helping all students meet the challenging State academic standards.”;

(II) in clause (iii), by striking “Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, the” and inserting “The”;

(4) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

“(f) FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR. —The Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and Youths established in each State shall—

“(1) gather and make publicly available reliable, valid, and comprehensive information on—

“(A) the number of homeless children and youths identified in the State, which shall be posted annually on the State educational agency’s website;

“(B) the nature and extent of the problems homeless children and youths have in gaining access to public preschool programs and to public elementary schools and secondary schools;

“(C) the difficulties in identifying the special needs and barriers to the participation and achievement of such children and youths;

“(D) any progress made by the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State in addressing such problems and difficulties; and

“(E) the success of the programs under this subtitle in identifying homeless children and youths and allowing such children and youths to enroll in, attend, and succeed in, school;

“(2) develop and carry out the State plan described in subsection (g);

“(3) collect data for and transmit to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may reasonably require, a report containing information necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children and youths within the State, including data necessary for the Secretary to fulfill the responsibilities under section 724(h);

“(4) in order to improve the provision of comprehensive education and related services to homeless children and youths and their families, coordinate activities and collaborate with—

“(A) educators, including teachers, special education personnel, administrators, and child development and preschool program personnel;

“(B) providers of services to homeless children and youths and their families, including public and private child welfare and social services agencies, law enforcement agencies, juvenile and family courts, agencies providing mental health services, domestic violence agencies, childcare providers, runaway and homeless youths centers, and providers of services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youths Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.);

“(C) providers of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing to homeless children and youths, and their families, including public housing agencies, shelter operators, operators of transitional housing facilities, and providers of transitional living programs for homeless youths;

“(D) local educational agency liaisons designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) for homeless children and youths; and

“(E) community organizations and groups representing homeless children and youths and their families;

“(5) provide technical assistance to and conduct monitoring of local educational agencies in coordination with local educational agency liaisons designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii), to ensure that local educational agencies comply with the requirements of subsection (e)(3) and paragraphs (3) through (7) of subsection (g);

“(6) provide professional development opportunities for local educational agency personnel and the local educational agency liaison designated under subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) to assist such personnel and liaison in identifying and meeting the needs of homeless children and youths, and provide training on the definitions of terms related to homelessness specified in sections 103, 401, and 725 to the liaison; and

“(7) respond to inquiries from parents and guardians of homeless children and youths, and (in the case of unaccompanied youths) such youths, to ensure that each child or youths who is the subject of such an inquiry receives the full protections and services provided by this subtitle.”;

(5) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

“(g) STATE PLAN. —

“(1) IN GENERAL. —For any State desiring to receive a grant under this subtitle, the State educational agency shall submit to the Secretary a plan to provide for the education of homeless children and youths within the State. Such plan shall include the following:

“(A) A description of how such children and youths are (or will be) given the opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards as all students are expected to meet.

“(B) A description of the procedures the State educational agency will use to identify such children and youths in the State and to assess their needs.

“(C) A description of procedures for the prompt resolution of disputes regarding the educational placement of homeless children and youths.

“(D) A description of programs for school personnel (including liaisons designated under subparagraph (J)(ii), principals and other school leaders, attendance officers, teachers, enrollment personnel, and specialized instructional support personnel) to heighten the awareness of such school personnel of the specific needs of homeless children and youths, including such children and youths who are runaway and homeless youths.

“(E) A description of procedures that ensure that homeless children and youths who meet the relevant eligibility criteria are able to participate in Federal, State, or local nutrition programs.

“(F) A description of procedures that ensure that—

“(i) homeless children have access to public preschool programs, administered by the State educational agency or local educational agency, as provided to other children in the State;

“(ii) youths described in section 725(2) and youths separated from public schools are identified and accorded equal access to appropriate secondary education and support services, including by identifying and removing barriers that prevent youths described in this clause from receiving appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school, in accordance with State, local, and school policies; and

“(iii) homeless children and youths who meet the relevant eligibility criteria do not face barriers to accessing academic and extracurricular activities, including magnet school, summer school, career and technical education, advanced placement, online learning, and charter school programs, if such programs are available at the State and local levels.

“(G) Strategies to address problems identified in the report provided to the Secretary under subsection (f)(3).

“(H) Strategies to address other problems with respect to the education of homeless children and youths, including problems resulting from enrollment delays that are caused by—

“(i) requirements of immunization and other required health records;

“(ii) residency requirements;

“(iii) lack of birth certificates, school records, or other documentation;

“(iv) guardianship issues; or

“(v) uniform or dress code requirements.

“(I) A demonstration that the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State have developed, and shall review and revise, policies to remove barriers to the identification of homeless children and youths, and the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youths in schools in the State, including barriers to enrollment and retention due to outstanding fees or fines, or absences.

“(J) Assurances that the following will be carried out:

“(i) The State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State will adopt policies and practices to ensure that homeless children and youths are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.

“(ii) The local educational agencies will designate an appropriate staff person, able to carry out the duties described in paragraph (6)(A), who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths.

“(iii) The State and the local educational agencies in the State will adopt policies and practices to ensure that transportation is provided, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the liaison), to and from the school of origin (as determined under paragraph (3), in accordance with the following, as applicable:

“(I) If the child or youths continues to live in the area served by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located, the child’s or youths’s

transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located.

“(II) If the child’s or youths’s living arrangements in the area served by the local educational agency of origin terminate and the child or youths, though continuing the child’s or youths’s education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another local educational agency, the local educational agency of origin and the local educational agency in which the child or youths is living shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child or youths with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the local educational agencies are unable to agree upon such method, the responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally.

“(iv) The State and the local educational agencies in the State will adopt policies and practices to ensure participation by liaisons described in clause (ii) in professional development and other technical assistance activities provided pursuant to paragraphs (5) and (6) of subsection (f), as determined appropriate by the Office of the Coordinator.

“(K) A description of how youths described in section 725(2) will receive assistance from counselors to advise such youths, and prepare and improve the readiness of such youths for college.

“(2) COMPLIANCE. —

“(A) IN GENERAL. —Each plan adopted under this subsection shall also describe how the State will ensure that local educational agencies in the State will comply with the requirements of paragraphs (3) through (7).

“(B) COORDINATION. —Such plan shall indicate what technical assistance the State will furnish to local educational agencies and how compliance efforts will be coordinated with the local educational agency liaisons designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii).

“(3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY REQUIREMENTS. —

“(A) IN GENERAL. —The local educational agency serving each child or youths to be assisted under this subtitle shall, according to the child’s or youths’s best interest—

“(i) continue the child’s or youths’s education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness—

“(I) in any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and

“(II) for the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youths becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or

“(ii) enroll the child or youths in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youths is actually living are eligible to attend.

“(B) SCHOOL STABILITY. —In determining the best interest of the child or youths under subparagraph (A), the local educational agency shall—

“(i) presume that keeping the child or youths in the school of origin is in the child’s or youths’s best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child’s or youths’s parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youths) the youths;

“(ii) consider student-centered factors related to the child’s or youths’s best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youths, giving priority to the request of the

child's or youths's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youths) the youths;

“(iii) if, after conducting the best interest determination based on consideration of the presumption in clause (i) and the student-centered factors in clause (ii), the local educational agency determines that it is not in the child's or youths's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youths) the youths, provide the child's or youths's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youths with a written explanation of the reasons for its determination, in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youths, including information regarding the right to appeal under subparagraph (E); and

“(iv) in the case of an unaccompanied youths, ensure that the local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii) assists in placement or enrollment decisions under this subparagraph, gives priority to the views of such unaccompanied youths, and provides notice to such youths of the right to appeal under subparagraph (E).

“(C) IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT. —

“(i) IN GENERAL. —The school selected in accordance with this paragraph shall immediately enroll the homeless child or youths, even if the child or youths—

“(I) is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, records of immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, or other documentation; or

“(II) has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.

“(ii) RELEVANT ACADEMIC RECORDS. —The enrolling school shall immediately contact the school last attended by the child or youths to obtain relevant academic and other records.

“(iii) RELEVANT HEALTH RECORDS.—If the child or youths needs to obtain immunizations or other required health records, the enrolling school shall immediately refer the parent or guardian of the child or youths, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youths) the youths, to the local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or screenings, or immunization or other required health records, in accordance with subparagraph (D).

“(D) RECORDS. —Any record ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization or other required health records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs, regarding each homeless child or youths shall be maintained—

“(i) so that the records involved are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youths enters a new school or school district; and

“(ii) in a manner consistent with section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. § 1232g).

“(E) ENROLLMENT DISPUTES. —If a dispute arises over eligibility, or school selection or enrollment in a school—

“(i) the child or youths shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals;

“(ii) the parent or guardian of the child or youths or (in the case of an unaccompanied youths) the youths shall be provided with a written explanation of any decisions related to school selection or enrollment made by the school, the local educational agency, or the State educational agency involved, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youths to appeal such decisions;

“(iii) the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youths shall be referred to the local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as described in paragraph (1)(C) as expeditiously as possible after receiving notice of the dispute; and

“(iv) in the case of an unaccompanied youths, the liaison shall ensure that the youths is immediately enrolled in the school in which the youths seeks enrollment pending resolution of such dispute.

“(F) PLACEMENT CHOICE. —The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the child or youths lives with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.

“(G) PRIVACY. —Information about a homeless child’s or youths’s living situation shall be treated as a student education record, and shall not be deemed to be directory information, under section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

“(H) CONTACT INFORMATION. —Nothing in this subtitle shall prohibit a local educational agency from requiring a parent or guardian of a homeless child or youths to submit contact information.

“(I) SCHOOL OF ORIGIN DEFINED. —In this paragraph:

“(i) IN GENERAL. —The term ‘school of origin’ means the school that a child or youths attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youths was last enrolled, including a preschool.

“(ii) RECEIVING SCHOOL. —When the child or youths completes the final grade level served by the school of origin, as described in clause (i), the term “school of origin” shall include the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools.

“(4) COMPARABLE SERVICES. —Each homeless child or youths to be assisted under this subtitle shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected under paragraph (3), including the following:

“(A) Transportation services.

“(B) Educational services for which the child or youths meets the eligibility criteria, such as services provided under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) or similar State or local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for English learners.

“(C) Programs in career and technical education.

“(D) Programs for gifted and talented students.

“(E) School nutrition programs.

“(5) COORDINATION. —

“(A) IN GENERAL. —Each local educational agency serving homeless children and youths that receives assistance under this subtitle shall coordinate—

“(i) the provision of services under this subtitle with local social services agencies and other agencies or entities providing services to homeless children and youths and their families, including services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youths Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.); and

“(ii) transportation, transfer of school records, and other interdistrict activities, with other local educational agencies.

“(B) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—If applicable, each State educational agency and local educational agency that receives assistance under this subtitle shall coordinate with State and local housing agencies responsible for developing the comprehensive housing affordability strategy described in section 105 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12705) to minimize educational disruption for children and youths who become homeless.

“(C) COORDINATION PURPOSE. —The coordination required under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be designed to—

“(i) ensure that all homeless children and youths are promptly identified;

“(ii) ensure that all homeless children and youths have access to, and are in reasonable proximity to, available education and related support services; and “(iii) raise the awareness of school personnel and service providers of the effects of short-term stays in a shelter and other challenges associated with homelessness.

“(D) HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS WITH DISABILITIES.— For children and youths who are to be assisted both under this subtitle, and under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), each local educational agency shall coordinate the provision of services under this subtitle with the provision of programs for children with disabilities served by that local educational agency and other involved local educational agencies.

“(6) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY LIAISON. —

“(A) DUTIES.—Each local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths, designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii), shall ensure that—

“(i) homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies;

“(ii) homeless children and youths are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, schools of that local educational agency;

“(iii) homeless families and homeless children and youths have access to and receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), and other preschool programs administered by the local educational agency;

“(iv) homeless families and homeless children and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;

“(v) the parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;

“(vi) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths;

“(vii) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with paragraph (3)(E);

“(viii) the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youths, and any unaccompanied youths, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, as described in paragraph (1)(J)(iii), and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected under paragraph (3)(A);

“(ix) school personnel providing services under this subtitle receive professional development and other support; and

“(x) unaccompanied youths—

“(I) are enrolled in school;

“(II) have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youths, including through implementation of the procedures under paragraph (1)(F)(ii); and

“(III) are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv) and that the youths may obtain assistance from the local educational agency liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1090).

“(B) NOTICE.—State Coordinators established under subsection (d)(3) and local educational agencies shall inform school personnel, service providers, advocates working with homeless families, parents and guardians of homeless children and youths, and homeless children and youths of the duties of the local educational agency liaisons, and publish an annually updated list of the liaisons on the State educational agency’s website.

“(C) LOCAL AND STATE COORDINATION. —Local educational agency liaisons for homeless children and youths shall, as a part of their duties, coordinate and collaborate with State Coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths. Such coordination shall include collecting and providing to the State Coordinator the reliable, valid, and comprehensive data needed to meet the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection (f).

“(D) HOMELESS STATUS.—A local educational agency liaison designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii) who receives training described in subsection (f)(6) may affirm, without further agency action by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, that a child or youths who is eligible for and participating in a program provided by the local educational agency, or the immediate family of such a child or youths, who meets the eligibility requirements of this Act for a program or service authorized under title IV, is eligible for such program or service.

“(7) REVIEW AND REVISIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational agency and local educational agency that receives assistance under this subtitle shall review and revise any policies that may act as barriers to the identification of homeless children and youths or the enrollment of homeless children and youths in schools that are selected under paragraph (3).

“(B) CONSIDERATION. —In reviewing and revising such policies, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residency, birth certificates, school records and other documentation, and guardianship.

“(C) SPECIAL ATTENTION. —Special attention shall be given to ensuring the identification, enrollment, and attendance of homeless children and youths who are not currently attending school.”; and

(6) by striking subsection (h).

SEC. 9103. LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY SUBGRANTS.

Section 723 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11433) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “facilitating the enrollment,” and inserting “facilitating the identification, enrollment,”;

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “the related” before “schools”; and

(C) by adding at the end, the following:

“(4) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Subgrants made under this section shall be for terms of not to exceed 3 years.”;

(2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

“(6) An assurance that the local educational agency will collect and promptly provide data requested by the State Coordinator pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 722(f).

“(7) An assurance that the local educational agency will meet the requirements of section 722(g)(3).”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “preschool, elementary, and secondary schools” and inserting “early childhood education and other preschool programs, elementary schools, and secondary schools,”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “identification,” before “enrollment,”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “application— ” and all that follows and inserting “application reflects coordination with other local and State agencies that serve homeless children and youths.”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “(as of the date of submission of the application)” after “practice”;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “extent to which the applicant will promote meaningful” after “The”;

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking “within” and inserting “into”;

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as subparagraph (I);

(iv) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) The extent to which the local educational agency will use the subgrant to leverage resources, including by maximizing non-subgrant funding for the position of the liaison described in section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) and the provision of transportation.

“(H) How the local educational agency will use funds to serve homeless children and youths under section 1113(c)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6313(c)(3)).”; and

(v) in subparagraph (I), as redesignated by clause (iii), by striking “Such” and inserting “The extent to which the applicant’s program meets such”; and

(C) by striking paragraph (4); and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the same challenging State academic content standards and challenging State student academic achievement standards” and inserting “the same challenging State academic standards as”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “students with limited English proficiency” and inserting “English learners”; and

(ii) by striking “vocational” and inserting “career”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “pupil services” and inserting “specialized instructional support”;

(D) in paragraph (7), by striking “and unaccompanied youths,” and inserting “particularly homeless children and youths who are not enrolled in school,”;

(E) in paragraph (9) by striking “medical” and inserting “other required health”;

(F) in paragraph (10)—

(i) by striking “parents” and inserting “parents and guardians”; and

(ii) by inserting before the period at the end “, and other activities designed to increase the meaningful involvement of parents and guardians of homeless children or youths in the education of such children or youths”;

(G) in paragraph (12), by striking “pupil services” and inserting “specialized instructional support services”;

(H) in paragraph (13), by inserting before the period at the end “and parental mental health or substance abuse problems”; and

(I) in paragraph (16), by inserting before the period at the end “and participate fully in school activities”.

SEC. 9104. SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 724 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) NOTICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, before the next school year that begins after the date of enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act, update and disseminate nationwide the public notice described in this subsection (as in effect prior to such date) of the educational rights of homeless children and youths.

“(2) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary shall disseminate the notice nationwide to all Federal agencies, and grant recipients, serving homeless families or homeless children and youths.”;

(2) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) EVALUATION, DISSEMINATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. —The Secretary shall conduct evaluation, dissemination, and technical assistance activities for programs designed to meet the educational needs of homeless elementary and secondary school students, and may use funds appropriated under section 726 to conduct such activities.”;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “60-day” and inserting “120-day”; and

(B) by striking “120-day” and inserting “180-day”;

(4) in subsection (f), by adding at the end the following: “The Secretary shall provide support and technical assistance to State educational agencies, concerning areas in which documented barriers to a free appropriate public education persist.”;

(5) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

“(g) GUIDELINES.—The Secretary shall develop, issue, and publish in the Federal Register, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act, guidelines concerning ways in which a State—

“(1) may assist local educational agencies to implement the provisions related to homeless children and youths amended by that Act; and

“(2) may review and revise State policies and procedures that may present barriers to the identification of homeless children and youths, and the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youths in school.”;

(6) in subsection (h)(1)(A)—

(A) by striking “location” and inserting “primary nighttime residence”; and

(B) by inserting “in all areas served by local educational agencies” before the semicolon at the end; and

(7) in subsection (i), by striking “McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001” and inserting “Every Student Succeeds Act”.

SEC. 9105. DEFINITIONS.

(a) AMENDMENTS. —Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B)(i)—

(A) by inserting “or” before “are abandoned”; and

(B) by striking “or are awaiting foster care placement.”;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “9101” and inserting “8101”; and

(3) in paragraph (6), by striking “youths not” and inserting “homeless child or youths not”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE. —

(1) IN GENERAL. —In the case of a State that is not a covered State, the amendment made by subsection (a)(1) shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) COVERED STATE. —In the case of a covered State, the amendment made by subsection (a)(1) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) COVERED STATE. —For purposes of this section the term “covered State” means a State that has a statutory law that defines or describes the phrase “awaiting foster care placement”, for purposes of a program under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney- Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

SEC. 9106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 726 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11435) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 726. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subtitle \$85,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2020.”.

SEC. 9107. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as provided in section 9105(b) or as otherwise provided in this Act, this title and the amendments made by this title take effect on October 1, 2016.