



July 2024

Dear LEA Leaders and Federal Grant Managers,

We are writing to update you on the Office of the State Superintendent of Education’s (OSSE’s) efforts to support the District of Columbia’s local education agencies (LEAs) to extend the period for spending American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding beyond Sept. 30, 2024. With just over three months remaining to obligate ARP-Homeless Children and Youth funds, it is vital to take full advantage of these one-time funds to meet the pressing needs of students experiencing homelessness. Please fully review this letter to ensure you are aware of opportunities made available by the US Department of Education (USED) and OSSE to maximize and leverage funds. This letter describes the application process for requesting an ARP-Homeless liquidation extension through OSSE. In addition, we highlight the extended period of availability for Homeless Children and Youth program funds for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant grantees.

USED Extension of ARP-Homeless

USED has offered liquidation extension opportunities for several ARP programs, including the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP-ESSER or ESSER III) Fund and the Homeless Children and Youth Fund (ARP-HCY or ARP-Homeless). We recently informed recipients of ARP-ESSER funds about the liquidation extension process, and below, we describe a similar process for ARP-Homeless.

Grantees may request extensions for any allowable use of ARP-Homeless funds if properly obligated by Sept. 30, 2024. Approval allows for an extended closeout and reimbursement through Dec. 1, 2025.

	Action	FY24	FY25	FY26
Core Closeout	Obligate	Sept. 30, 2024		
	Amend Budget	Nov. 1, 2024		
	Reimburse	Dec. 1, 2024		
Extended Closeout	Obligate	Sept. 30, 2024		
	Apply for Liquidation Extension	Oct. 15, 2024		
	Amend Budget		Nov. 1, 2025	
	Reimburse		Dec. 1, 2025	

Liquidation extension applications are required for this flexibility and must be submitted to OSSE by Oct. 15, 2024. OSSE will submit the requests to USED on behalf of LEAs.

LEA Application Process

OSSE’s application form is now available on our [sustainability planning supports](#) website. Starting today, LEAs can complete the application and email it to HEP.OSSE@dc.gov. OSSE will review

applications on a rolling basis. For each good or service included in your extension request, you will need to provide the following information:

- A brief description of the good or service.
 - For example, an LEA could write, “purchase hotspots for students living in shelters or doubled-up to ensure they have access to the internet during out-of-school days to complete homework and prevent learning loss during the summer months.”
- The cost of the obligation.
- Supporting documentation that demonstrates proper obligation by Sept. 30, 2024.
 - Per [federal regulation](#), this obligation should be in the form of “binding written commitment” (e.g., an executed contract) for allowable uses under this grant program.

OSSE will accept preliminary requests where LEAs describe costs which they intend to obligate by Sept. 30, 2024, even if they do not yet have final written commitments. Upon execution of those commitments, LEAs should provide supporting documentation to OSSE as soon as possible for review.

After the close of fiscal year 2024 (FY24), OSSE will complete a final review of requests and supporting documentation. OSSE must receive all supporting documents no later than Oct. 15, 2024 in order for those expenditures to be considered for extension.

LEAs cannot apply directly to USED for extensions; OSSE must apply on LEAs’ behalf.

Timeline

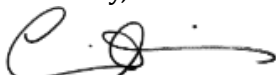
To support OSSE’s timely review prior to that date, OSSE will require LEAs to submit all reimbursement requests under approved extensions by Dec. 1, 2025. For all other ARP-Homeless expenditures not approved for extension, LEAs must request reimbursements by the current program deadline of Dec. 1, 2024.

USED Extension of EHCY (McKinney-Vento Grants)

USED also [recently announced](#) that the period of availability on McKinney-Vento (MKV) Education of Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) has been extended. USED has encouraged states and LEAs to fully expend ARP-Homeless one-time funds prior to tapping into EHCY funds. To support you in spending down ARP-Homeless first, **OSSE will waive the 15 percent annual carryover cap and 100 percent of your MKV EHCY funds may be carried over into FY25 and will remain available for your use through the end of FY26.**

Please consider taking advantage of these flexibilities to maximize federal supports for your LEA students experiencing homelessness. And thank you for your continued work to accelerate learning for students in the District of Columbia. For questions, please email HEP.OSSE@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Nikki Stewart

Assistant Superintendent for Systems and Supports, K-12