



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
EDUCATION

Funding Your Homeless Education Plan:

Using ARP-Homeless funding to Support Students Experiencing Homelessness

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the United States Department of Education (USED) provided the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) federal funding to support local education agencies (LEAs) in mitigating effects of the coronavirus pandemic on children and youth experiencing homelessness. The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth Fund (ARP-Homeless) will serve as a resource to help LEAs:

- **REENGAGE** students who have been disconnected due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Connect students to **RESOURCES** such as transportation, housing, medical care, etc.
- **RECOVER** student learning

OSSE created two grants from this funding: ARP-Homeless I and ARP-Homeless II. The period of availability for both grants is March 13, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2024. Current McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (MKV) subgrantees received the first grant (ARP-Homeless I). The second grant (ARP-Homeless II) will be allocated based on each local education agency’s fiscal year 2020 (FY20) Title I-A allocation and the greatest number of students identified as experiencing homelessness in either the 2018-19 or 2019-20 school year.

[Allowable uses of funds](#) for ARP Homeless funding are the same as those for the MKV grant. The purpose of this guide is to support LEAs in planning to use ARP funding by providing examples of programs and activities that can be supported using these funds.

Given the unique and complex needs of students and families experiencing homelessness many of the examples to REENGAGE, provide RESOURCES and RECOVER student learning will overlap, but with important distinctions. For example, wraparound services can be provided as a means of reengaging, providing resources or recovering learning loss for students, but how it is done will vary across the budget categories (see table below for example).

| ARP-HOMELESS Budget Category and EGMS Code | Example | Distinction |
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| Wraparound Services – Reengage (A3) | Providing and/or connecting students and families experiencing homelessness to resources that mitigate the impacts of COVID and support student academic achievement (e.g., counseling, clothing, nutrition, housing assistance, etc.) | To reengage students experiencing homelessness in learning, it is often necessary to first help them meet their primary needs (e.g., emotional, nutritional, housing), therefore wraparound services such as counseling, clothing and housing assistance are often critical to helping students reengage and find interest in learning. |

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| Wraparound Services – Resources (B2) | Provide wraparound services to support students and families experiencing homelessness leverage local resources from district agencies and community providers (e.g., DHS, MBI Health Services, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative, Bread for the City, etc.) | As an LEA, partnering with community providers helps expand access to and awareness of critical resources for students and families experiencing homelessness. By serving as a connector, the LEA is able to support families in obtaining essential resources the LEA is otherwise unable to provide. |
| Wraparound Services – Recover Learning (C2) | Providing wraparound services/interventions responding to student’s academic, social, and emotional needs and addressing the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on students experiencing homelessness (e.g., tutoring, EL recovery program, SWD recovery program, trauma informed care, and academic enrichment programs) | To recover learning, LEAs can invest in programs to support direct interventions to students and/or professional development to help educators support students in recovering learning lost. |

In ARP-Homeless grant application(s), you will be asked to organize your budget using three spending priorities: **REENGAGE** students, connect students to **RESOURCES**, and **RECOVER** student learning. The tables below list examples of resources your LEA may use to **Reengage Students, Connect Students to Resources, and RECOVER** student learning using ARP Homeless funding. These are not comprehensive lists of all resources ARP-Homeless grants can support but can serve as a starting point for designing your programming and building a budget. Note that every spending priority also includes a budget category called “other” for activities that may not align to the named priorities.

As you review this document, pay special attention to the important distinctions in each category, and if you need assistance or additional resources, please visit OSSE’s Homeless Education Program [webpage](#) or contact Danielle Rollins at Danielle.Rollins@dc.gov to receive direct technical assistance.

**ARP-HOMELESS Spending Priorities:
REENGAGE Students**

The budget category and Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) code column below lists budget categories that align with the **Reengage Students** spending priority. Also included is the budget code a grant manager would select when completing an ARP Homeless grant application in EGMS.

| Reengage Students | |
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| ARP-HOMELESS Budget Category and EGMS Code | Examples of Resources to Fund |
| Staff – Reengage (A1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hire new or dedicate existing staff to Reengage disconnected children and youth experiencing homelessness |
| Professional Development (PD) – Reengage (A2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local and national PD to support homeless liaisons in executing the duties of their position, to include but not limited to, understanding the MKV Homeless Assistance Act, connecting students and families to available resources, and identifying best practices for reengaging students experiencing homelessness with their education |
| Wraparound Services – Reengage (A3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing and/or connecting students and families experiencing homelessness to resources that mitigate the impacts of COVID and support student academic achievement (e.g., counseling, clothing, nutrition, housing assistance, etc.) |
| Partnerships – Reengage (A4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop partnerships with local and national organizations that focus on reengagement activities for children and youth experiencing homelessness who are neither working nor in school (e.g., SchoolHouse Connection, Children Playtime Project, National Center for Children and Families) |
| Contracts/Subgrants – Identify/Enroll Students (A5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract or provide subgrants to community-based organizations (CBOs) that are well-positioned to identify/enroll historically underserved populations (e.g., rural children and youth; Tribal children and youth; students of color; children and youth with disabilities; English learners; LGBTQ+ youth; and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness) |
| Reengagement Center (REC) Programs (A6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop reengagement strategies for disconnected youth (e.g., partner with OSSE’s Division of Postsecondary and Career Education (PCE’s) Re-Engagement Center for GED tutoring services) |
| Cell Phone for Unaccompanied Youth (UAY) (A7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchasing and providing cell phones for unaccompanied youth to enable them to attend and fully participate in school activities |
| Translation Services – Reengage (A8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translation Services (e.g., translation of printed materials to notify students of upcoming events, enrollment dates, school activities, welcome back messaging, and language access services) |

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| Educational Technology – Internet Access (A9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to reliable, high-speed internet for students through the purchase of internet connected devices/equipment, mobile hotspots, wireless service plans, or installation of Community Wi-Fi Hotspots to Reengage students especially in underserved communities |
| Educational Technology – Devices (A10) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement of tech devices for students experiencing homelessness to attend and fully participate in school activities |
| Educational Technology – Digital (A11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase digital software to create podcasts, infographics and social media content to reengage disconnected youth |
| Store/Debit Cards (A12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute store/prepaid debit cards (to purchase school supplies, groceries, uniforms, etc.) |
| Needs assessment to identify unique educational | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an assessment/evaluation tool • Hire an evaluator to conduct the needs assessment |

**ARP-HOMELESS Spending Priorities:
Connect Students to RESOURCES**

The budget category and Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) code column below lists budget categories that align with **Connect students to Resources** spending priority. Also included is the budget code a grant manager would select when completing an ARP-Homeless grant application in EGMS.

| Connect students to RESOURCES | |
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| ARP-HOMELESS Budget Category and EGMS Code | Examples of Resources to Fund |
| Staff - Homeless Liaison (B1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire new or dedicate existing staff to serve as the homeless liaison providing and/or identifying resources for students experiencing homelessness (proportion of salary funded must match the amount of time dedicated to this work) |
| Wraparound Services – Resources (B2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide wraparound services to support students and families experiencing homelessness leverage local resources from district agencies and community providers (e.g., DHS, MBI Health Services, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative, Bread for the City, etc.) |
| Purchase PPE and Other Health and Safety Supplies (B3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness supplies/supports (e.g. PPE, eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items) |
| Transportation Support (B4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation support programs (e.g., SmarTrip® program of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and Kids Ride Free program). |
| Short-term, temporary housing (STTH) services (B5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide temporary housing for students who may need to be removed from the home as a result of concerns that may arise from domestic violence, parental mental health, substance abuse, etc. |

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| Referral Services and Supports (B6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay for students and/or families experiencing homelessness to receive referral services such as dental, medical, mental, or other health related services |
| Translation Services - Resources (B7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translate resource materials (e.g., homeless awareness posters, MKV “Know Your Rights” brochures, Early Learning Resource brochure, LEA Parent/Student Handbook) into needed languages |
| Partnerships - Resources (B8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with local/national agencies (e.g., DC Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH), National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)—technical arm of USED, National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY), SchoolHouse Connection (SHC), and other school-based local partners) to provide scholarships, grants, and other financial resources for children and youth experiencing homelessness |

**ARP-HOMELESS Spending Priorities:
RECOVER Student Learning**

The budget category and Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) code column below lists budget categories that align with the **Recover student learning** spending priority. Also included is the budget code a grant manager would select when completing an ARP-Homeless grant application in EGMS.

| RECOVER Student Learning | |
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| ARP-HOMELESS Budget Category and EGMS Code | Examples of Resources to Fund |
| Staff – Recover Learning (C1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated time for homeless liaisons to provide/identify resources to assist students experiencing homelessness recover with academic instruction (proportion of salary funded must match the amount of time dedicated to this work) |
| Wraparound Services – Recover Learning (C2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing wraparound services/interventions responding to student’s academic, social, and emotional needs and addressing the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on students experiencing homelessness (e.g., tutoring, EL recovery program, SWD recovery program, trauma informed care, and academic enrichment programs) |
| Partnerships – Recover Learning (C3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract a vendor to provide academic and enrichment services/programming to mitigate student learning loss resulting from various impacts of COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., hiring a vendor to provide SAT/ACT Prep) |
| Contract/Subgrants – Special Populations (C4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract CBOs that are well-positioned to support historically underserved populations (e.g., rural children and youth; Tribal children and youth; students of color; children and youth with disabilities; English learners; LGBTQ+ youth; and pregnant, parenting, or caregiving students experiencing homelessness) in need of social emotional learning and mental health services |

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| Tutoring Services and Programs (C5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with local colleges/universities to hire college students as tutors for your school's tutoring program designed to target at risk populations, including students experiencing homelessness |
| Summer Learning/Enrichment Programs (C6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund participation in or provide summer programming to mitigate learning loss and bolster academic achievement for students experiencing homelessness. |
| Afterschool Enrichment Programs (C7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund participation in or provide afterschool programming to support the academic, social and/or emotional enrichment of students experiencing homelessness |
| Extended day programs (C8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the traditional school day by providing additional instruction at the end of day regular bell schedule |
| Partial Credit and Credit Recovery (C9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire a consultant to develop credit recovery protocols and/or fund the costs associated with students earning partial credits through night school and other credit recovery courses |
| College/Technical Education (C10) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with a vendor to provide virtual or in-person CTE programs (e.g., computer coding classes and professional masterclasses for youth) targeting youth experiencing homelessness |
| Translation Services - Recover Learning (C11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide translation of learning materials for students and families experiencing homelessness to support parental involvement in academic learning recovery |