

## MEMORANDUM NO. 2022-005

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Consolidated Grant Managers  
Business Managers  
Homeless Liaisons

**FROM:** Shelley Hamel, Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** January 10, 2022

**SUBJECT:** American Rescue Plan Homeless I Grant Application

---

# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN HOMELESS I GRANT APPLICATION (ARP-HCY I)

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) included a total of \$800 million to support the specific needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness through the ARP Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Fund. On April 23, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) announced the first disbursement of these funds under section 2001(b)(1) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) for the purposes of meeting the immediate needs of students experiencing homelessness, including the identification, enrollment, participation and success of children and youth experiencing homelessness, and the provision of wrap-around services in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Application for the American Rescue Plan Homeless I (ARP-HCY 1) funds for Wyoming school districts is now available in the Grant Management System (GMS). This is a competitive grant that all Wyoming school districts are eligible to apply for. The total allocation for Wyoming is \$497,365 and applications are due no later than January 28, 2022. Allocations will be awarded no later than February 28, 2022.

Given the purpose of the ARP-HCY funds, they may be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. However, LEAs should be mindful of comparable service requirements: any activity or service that is provided to all or any non-homeless students by the LEA cannot be reimbursed from ARP-HCY funds.

ARP-HCY I funds supplement the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program and LEAs may use these funds for any of the sixteen allowable uses, as authorized by the McKinney-Vento Act (42 U.S.C. §11433(d)):

1. The provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services.
2. The provision of expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of homeless children and youths, including needs and eligibility for programs and services (e.g., educational programs for gifted and talented students, children with disabilities, English learners, services provided under Title I, career and technical education, school nutrition programs).
3. Professional development to heighten understanding and sensitivity to the needs of homeless children and youth, the rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.
4. The provision of referral services for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
5. Excess cost of transportation, not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, where necessary to enable students to school selected under 722(g)(3).
6. The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs for preschool-aged homeless children.
7. The provision of services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain homeless children and youths, particularly homeless children and youths who are not enrolled in school, in public school programs and services provided to non-homeless children and youths.
8. The provision of before- and after-school, mentoring, and summer programs which provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities.
9. The payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll homeless children and youth in school.
10. The provision of education/training for parents and guardians of homeless children and youth about the rights of, and resources available to, their children and other activities designed to increase the meaningful involvement of parents/guardians in the education of their children.
11. The development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to homeless children and youth.
12. The provision of specialized instructional support services and referrals for such services.
13. Activities to address the particular needs of homeless children and youth that may arise from domestic violence and parental mental health or substance abuse problems
14. The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available under subsection (a)(2) (services provided with subgrant funds to provide services.

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 to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and participate fully in school.

In addition, ARP-HCY I funds may be used for any expenses that are reasonable and necessary to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention and educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness, such as:

- Providing wraparound services (which could be provided in collaboration with and/or through contracts with community-based organizations, and could include academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services);
- Purchasing needed supplies (e.g., PPE, eyeglasses, school supplies, personal care items);
- Providing transportation to enable children and youth to attend classes and participate fully in school activities;
- Purchasing cell phones or other technological devices for unaccompanied youth to enable the youth to attend and fully participate in school activities;
- Providing 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 (e.g., at homeless shelters), especially in underserved communities;
- Paying for short-term, temporary housing (e.g., a few days in a motel) when such emergency housing is the only reasonable option for COVID-safe temporary housing and when necessary to enable the homeless child or youth to attend school and participate fully in school activities (including summer school); and
- Providing store cards/prepaid debit cards to purchase materials necessary for students to participate in school activities.

USED also encourages LEAs to award contracts to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in historically underserved populations and connect them to educationally-related support and wrap-around services. When considering funding decisions, LEAs should analyze the needs, including academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, of students experiencing homelessness in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact. In alignment with Education Recovery priorities to re engage students, approval priority will be given to applicants whose strategies increase identification of students experiencing homelessness, provide access to summer programming, and/or plan for the provision of wraparound services for this summer and fall 2021, in collaboration with State and local agencies and other community-based organizations.

ARP-HCY funds must also supplement the support and services provided with ARP ESSER funds and does not replace the use of ARP ESSER funds to support the needs of students experiencing homelessness.

The Wyoming Department of Education provided a Zoom training on Friday January 7, 2022 from 10 a.m.-noon. This training provided information about the grant application requirements and allowable uses of these funds. The training has been recorded and is available upon request.

---

*For more information, contact Shannon Cranmore, State Homeless Coordinator, at 307-777-3672 or [shannon.cranmore@wyo.gov](mailto:shannon.cranmore@wyo.gov).*