Allowable Uses for ARP Homeless II Funds

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I, ESSER II, and American Rescue Plan (ARP)-ESSER funds are subject to the same allowable use of funds rules as dollars received via the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

ARP Homeless II funds are meant to mitigate the burden the pandemic has put on families experiencing homelessness. Funds should be used to target the immediate needs of families. Funds are supplemental; therefore, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) should consider how to supplement other funds already being spent to meet the needs of students experiencing homelessness in this order:



Here are some examples of how to use of ARP Homeless II funds to supplement other funding sources:

- LEAs can pay for short term stays at a hotel or other temporary housing arrangements for families experiencing homelessness.
- LEAs can purchase cellphones and Wi-Fi hotspots for students to facilitate participation in school activities.
- LEAs can provide wraparound services. This includes using funds to identify students newly experiencing housing instability and to eliminate barriers for identified students that have not been engaging with school because of the pandemic.

ENGAGED AND CHALLENGED

| Item | Can McKinney- Vento funds be used? | Can ARP Homeless II funds be used? |
|---|---|---|
| Supplemental transportation to enable attendance in school and school-sponsored activities | Yes | Yes |
| Cell phones or other devices to enable attendance and full participation | No | Yes |
| Reliable, high-speed internet for students while family is homeless and needs internet to participate in instruction beyond what is provided to all students and families | No | Yes |
| Tutoring, supplemental instruction and enriched educational services | Yes | Yes |
| Expedited evaluations | Yes | Yes |
| Assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation | Yes | Yes |
| Developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs | Yes | Yes |
| Before-and after-school, mentoring and summer programs | Yes | Yes |

SUPPORTED

| Item | Can McKinney-Vento funds be used? | Can ARP Homeless II funds be used? |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Wraparound services (through contracts with community- based organizations, that could include academic supports, trauma-informed care, social-emotional support, and mental health services) | Yes - in some circumstances | Yes - ARP expands funding opportunities |
| Professional development designed to heighten the understanding of the needs of homeless children and youth and their rights | Yes | Yes |
| Services to attract, engage, and retain students experiencing homelessness | Yes | Yes |
| Education and training for families about their rights and available resources | Yes | Yes |
| Coordination between schools and agencies providing services | Yes | Yes |

SAFE AND HEALTHY

| Item | Can McKinney- Vento funds be used? | Can ARP Homeless II funds be used? |
|---|---|---|
| Needed supplies related to COVID-19 | No | Yes |
| Short-term, temporary housing during emergencies or to enable full participation in school activities | No | Yes |
| Referral services for medical, dental, mental, and other health services | Yes | Yes |
| Specialized instructional support services (including violence prevention counseling) and referrals for such services | Yes | Yes |

| Item | Can McKinney- Vento funds be used? | Can ARP Homeless II funds be used? |
|--|---|---|
| Activities to address particular needs that may arise from domestic violence, parental mental health issues, or substance abuse problems | Yes | Yes |
| The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non- school facilities | Yes | Yes |
| Other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed for attendance and full participation | Yes | Yes |