

Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Grant Applications Informational Webinar


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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

Learning Objectives


- Introduction to DPI Education for Homeless Children and Youth grant
 - Difference between the EHCY Innovation and EHCY Compliance Grants
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McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act


The intent of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is to ensure all children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence receive access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youth.

The WI Department of Public Instruction (DPI) receives funds from the U.S. Department of Education and distributes those funds through the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) grants.

Grant Basics

- Grant type: Competitive and discretionary
 - Eligibility: Public school districts and independent charter schools
 - Funding: Dependent on the type of grant
 - Also on the number of students experiencing homelessness
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EHCY Grant Timeline


- Both grant applications opened February 27, 2023
 - Complete grants in Qualtrics online software by April 11, 2023, 4:00 p.m.
 - All applicants are anticipated to know the status of their grant application by June, 2023.
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Comparing the Grants

Innovation Grant	Compliance Grant
Grant period: 3 years, 2023-2026	Grant period: 2 years, 2023-2025
Funding: \$20,000 - \$100,000/year	Funding: \$15,000/year
Focus: Innovative strategies based on data analysis	Focus: Policies and procedures; Staff and Community Awareness; Identification and Enrollment
3 goals required; applicants write own goals and action steps	3 goals required; applicants select a pre-written goal, write own action steps

EHCY Innovation Grant


The purpose of the 3-yr Innovation grant is to:

- Fund innovative strategies to support students experiencing homelessness above and beyond compliance with McKinney-Vento
 - Improve the academic and school success of students experiencing homelessness
 - Fund goals and action steps based on needs assessment and data analysis
 - Build sustainable new strategies that continue after the 3-year grant cycle
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What do we mean by “Innovation”?


- We expect all districts applying for the 3-year grant to be in full compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Compliance topics include policies/procedures, transportation, staff training on McKinney-Vento, enrollment or identification practices.
 - Goals, not action steps
- Does **not** need to be something that hasn't ever been done before - It **should** be above and beyond what is currently done for students experiencing homelessness in the district.

Considerations for Innovation Grant

- Does the district have the time or capacity to conduct a needs assessment using various data sources to inform grant goals specific to your district?
 - Does the district have the ability to write 3 goals that will have measurable outcomes for the next 3 years?
 - Does the district have capacity to focus on academic outcomes for students experiencing homelessness?
 - Is the district ready to focus on equitable outcomes for students experiencing homelessness as a specific subpopulation?
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EHCY Compliance Grant

The purpose of the 2-year Compliance grant is to:

- Strive for equitable distribution of EHCY funds throughout the state.
 - Provide increased technical support to districts to ensure compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
 - Encourage recipients to go beyond compliance in a select area.
 - Provide the opportunity for districts to feel prepared to apply for the EHCY 3-year innovation grant.
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Goals for Compliance Grant

- Annual staff training, Create training materials
- Increase/strengthen community partnerships
- Create district-specific awareness materials (brochure, poster, etc.), Create district-specific identification and enrollment materials (enrollment/residency forms, etc.)
- Develop district-specific written processes/operating procedures for student identification
- Establish/strengthen connections among inter-district programs and staff (preschool/Head Start, CTE, Data, Special Education)

Considerations for Compliance Grant

- Capacity - Does the district have staff and time to participate in quarterly technical assistance meetings (virtually) and complete the work?
- Readiness - Has the district gone through compliance monitoring recently and recognizes the need for improvement? Or believe the district is under-identifying students?
- Support - because the grant will focus on policies and procedures, districts must have the support of the administration. This may also include having access to data.

Grant Similarities

- Grant funds may be used for the 16 activities authorized under Section 723(d) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
 - Please note this does NOT include flexibilities under ARP-HCY (e.g., hotel stays, repairs for non-district vehicles, purchasing vehicles, gift cards for food, etc.)
- Majority of budget must be related to grant goals.
- Required meetings, partnerships with other grant-funded districts

Technical Assistance

- Innovation Grant Webinar, March 7, 9:00 a.m.
- Compliance Grant Webinar, March 7, 10:00 a.m.
- Application Data Guide
- Grant Comparison Guiding Questions

<https://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/grant-info>

Questions?



Contact Us

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