

**ARP-Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) State Reserve Application - Part I - ARP-HCY Reserves****Background Information**

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**American Rescue Plan (ARP) - Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) State Reserve - Background Information**

**Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must respond to this survey to generate ARP-HCY State Reserve funds.**

LEAs are facing unprecedented increases in homeless students which include migrant, immigrant, refugee, and asylee students from Afghanistan, Ukraine, and other war torn and economically depressed countries. NYSED will disperse its ARP-HCY state reserve through allocational grants to LEAs with disproportionately high numbers of homeless students who are also defined as migrant, immigrant, refugee, or asylee students.

To collect up-to-date data regarding the number students who are defined as homeless *and also* as migrant, immigrant, refugee, or asylee that were enrolled in the last quarter of 2022, NYSED is administering a point-in-time survey to all LEAs. LEAs should report any student identified as homeless, immigrant or impacted by disaster (asylee, refugee) who was enrolled on or after August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. It is imperative that the LEA provides accurate student level data as it will be used to determine a per pupil amount for generating an ARP HCY State Reserve allocation to each LEA with eligible students.

Once allocations have been announced, the LEA may apply for the funds through the submission of an application that describes the increased needs presented and strategies and interventions selected to address those needs. NYSED will review and ensure that all applications include activities that are allowable, reasonable, and necessary.

For more information on how LEAs can best support students who are homeless as well as migrant, immigrant, refugee or asylee, please see the guidance memo entitled "Educational Services for Recently Arrived Evacuees, Refugees, Immigrants and/ or Unaccompanied Children", which can be found in the *Document* panel of this application.

**Submission Deadline**

Completed surveys are **due** by Thursday, **April 6, 2023**.

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**Definitions**

For the purposes of gathering accurate student level data, the LEA should categorize students who meet the definition of homeless and migrant, immigrant, refugee, or asylee based on the following definitions. To be counted under the ARP-HCY State Reserve Application, a student need only be identified as experiencing homelessness *and* one of the other categories.

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Homeless student: Under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Act, the term "homeless children and youths" is defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes children and youths who:

- Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (referred to as "doubled-up");
- Are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Are living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Are abandoned in hospitals;
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus/train stations, or similar settings; and
- Are migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

Migrant student:

- A student is a migrant child if the student is, or whose parent, guardian, or spouse is, a migratory agricultural worker, including a migratory dairy worker or a migratory fisher, and who, in the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain, or accompany such parent, guardian, or spouse, in order to obtain, temporary or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work has moved from one school district to another. (Definition from SIRs Manual)

Immigrant: Immigrant children and youth are defined as individuals who:

- are aged 3 through 21;
- were not born in any State; and
- have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more States for more than 3 full academic years. The months need not be consecutive. *"State" means the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Children born to U.S. citizens abroad (including those born on military bases), the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, or any other U.S. territory that is not D.C. or Puerto Rico are considered immigrants. (Definition from SIRs Manual).*

Students presented at the school for registration who may or may not have documentation due to a disaster or crisis. For the purposes of this data gathering, qualifying disasters may be natural, or a civil conflict. These students may be otherwise known as:

Refugee:

- (A) any person who is outside any country of such person's nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, is outside any country in which such person last habitually resided, and who is unable or unwilling to return to, and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of, that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, or
  - (B) in such special circumstances as the President after appropriate consultation (as defined in section 1157(e) of this title) may specify, any person who is within the country of such person's nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, within the country in which such person is habitually residing, and who is persecuted or who has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
  - The term "refugee" does not include any person who ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. For purposes of determinations under this chapter, a person who has been forced to abort a pregnancy or to undergo involuntary sterilization, or who has been persecuted for failure or refusal to undergo such a procedure or for other resistance to a coercive population control program, shall be deemed to have been
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persecuted on account of political opinion, and a person who has a well-founded fear that he or she will be forced to undergo such a procedure or subject to persecution for such failure, refusal, or resistance shall be deemed to have a well-founded fear of persecution on account of political opinion. (8 USC 1101(a), INA 101(a))

Asylee: a person who meets the definition of refugee and is already present in the United States or is seeking admission at a port of entry. (Definition from US Department of Homeland Security.)

Eligible Local Educational Agency (LEA): An LEA is eligible to receive funds if it enrolled at least one student from August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 who can be categorized as both homeless and one of the following: migrant, immigrant, refugee or asylee and it reports such student(s) in the child count is taken in this application.

**Allowable Uses of Funds**

ARP-HCY State Reserve funds are intended to supplement the HCY program, and all allowable HCY uses apply to these funds. For more information, LEAs should reference the list of authorized activities in section 723(d) of the HCY statute, 42 U.S.C. § 11433(d). These activities may include any expenses necessary to facilitate the identification, enrollment, retention, and educational success of homeless children and youth, such as, but not limited to:

- 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.

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Eligibility

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**Eligibility**

1. **From August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, has the LEA enrolled at least one student who can be categorized as both homeless *and* one of the following: migrant, immigrant, refugee or asylee?**

YES, the LEA enrolled at least one student from August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 who can be categorized as both homeless AND one of the following: migrant, immigrant, refugee or asylee.

NO, the LEA has not enrolled at least one student from August 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 who can be categorized as both homeless AND one of the following: migrant, immigrant, refugee or asylee.