



Pennsylvania
Department of Education

2026-2031 ECYEH Grant Solicitation

Please note: Grants must be solicited through the E-grants system.

Content to solicit:

**Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)/Bureau of School Support,
Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness
Program Request for Application**

Grant Description:

Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program Request for Application intends to allocate funds to selected grantees to administer grants and provide services to charter schools, school districts, comprehensive full-time career and technical centers (CTCs), and intermediate units (IUs) to develop a program of regional coordination of services to meet the needs of their children experiencing homelessness. These funds will support the programs and activities that address the barriers to the education of children experiencing homelessness, as outlined in the state plan. Section B. Program Requirements of this application, found below under Authorized Activities, provides a description of Pennsylvania's regional approach to ensure outreach to all LEAs. The McKinney-Vento State Plan can be found [on PDE's website](#).

PDE is committed to strengthening the academic infrastructure and supporting the achievement of all children, including those who are experiencing homelessness. Grants will be given on a competitive basis to a local education agency (LEA) within each of the eight regions in the Commonwealth and will be awarded based on the need of such agencies for assistance and the quality of the applications submitted. Each region must serve all LEAs, intermediate units, comprehensive full-time career and technical schools, and charter schools in the geographic areas of the region.

To meet the requirements of the grant, each awardee must hire a 12-month, full-time regional coordinator with a minimum of five years' experience in providing services to homeless children and youth and has been awarded a minimum of a Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.

The regional coordinator will be responsible for providing services immediately upon grant award; there will not be a planning or development period. The regional coordinator should be managed by and headquartered at an intermediate unit in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The regional coordinator will be required to attend the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) conference, the state conference, and all quarterly regional meetings scheduled by PDE.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness cannot benefit from educational programs and services unless they are in school, attending regularly, and participating fully in all available school activities. Focused identification and outreach efforts are needed to enroll these children in school, help them attend, and ensure school stability. Educators need to be aware of the barriers to school access, revise local policies and practices, and plan for the additional educational and unique needs of these children. School staff—primarily the school district/LEA homeless liaison—must partner with human and social service agencies in their communities and must ensure there is no disruption in the educational lives of these children. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001 authorizes SEA to make grants available to LEAs for the purpose of facilitating enrollment, attendance and success in school for children experiencing homelessness.

The purpose of this request for application is to provide interested applicants with an opportunity to apply for grants to coordinate the enrollment policies and delivery of educational and related services for the educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness. These services must focus on easing the identified barriers to enrollment, and attendance and success in school, including student-centered factors such as the impact of mobility on the achievement, education, health, and safety of students experiencing homelessness, through training and outreach to LEAs and agencies serving this population.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of the ECYEH Program is to ensure children and youth experiencing homelessness receive a free and appropriate public education on an equal basis with all other children in the state.

Program objectives and activities are intended to remove and/or ease the barriers to enrollment and educational success for children experiencing homelessness as outlined in the state plan.

The main objectives of the program are to:

- Reduce the disruption in the educational lives of children and youth experiencing homelessness;

- Increase awareness about the nature and extent of the problems children and youth experiencing homelessness have enrolling in, gaining access to, and fully participating in educational programs and services;
- Explain laws and policies already in place, which aid in overcoming these barriers;
- Build on laws and policies already in place, and/or suggest new policies, which aid in overcoming these barriers;
- Consistently encourage the use of technology (i.e. Finding Your Way in PA App) to identify children and youth experiencing homelessness;
- Build the capacity of others to assist in identifying, enrolling and ensuring the educational success of children and youth experiencing homelessness; and
- Provide opportunities to collaborate with other statewide initiatives such as special education, Response to Intervention I, and early childhood education to improve academic achievement, and Title I.

Authorized Activities

To carry out the purpose of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a grantee may use grant funds for the following authorized activities (from SEC. 723. of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act Act):

1. The provision of tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services are linked to the achievement of the same challenging State academic content standards and challenging State student academic achievement standards the State establishes for other children and youths.
2. The provision of expedited evaluations of the strengths and needs of homeless children and youths, including needs and eligibility for programs and services (such as educational programs for gifted and talented students, children with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency, services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or similar state or local programs, programs in vocational and technical education, and school nutrition programs).
3. Professional development and other activities for educators and pupil services personnel that are designed to heighten the understanding and sensitivity of such personnel to the needs of homeless children and youths, the rights of such children and youths under this subtitle, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.
4. The provision of referral services to homeless children and youths for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
5. The provision of assistance to defray the excess cost of transportation for students under section 722(g)(4)(A), not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding, where necessary to enable students to attend the school selected under section 722(g)(3).

6. The provision of developmentally appropriate early childhood education programs not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding, for preschool-aged homeless children.
7. The provision of services and assistance to attract, engage, and retain homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, in public school programs and services provided to non-homeless children and youths.
8. The provision for homeless children and youths of before- and after-school, mentoring, and summer programs in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities.
9. If necessary, the payment of fees and other costs associated with tracking, obtaining, and transferring records necessary to enroll homeless children and youths in school, including birth certificates, immunization or medical records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services.
10. The payment of fees for AP and IB coursework.
11. The payment of fees for entrance exams such as SAT or ACT.
12. Providing GED testing for school-age students.
13. The provision of education and training to the parents of homeless children and youths about the rights of, and resources available to, such children and youths.
14. The development of coordination between schools and agencies providing services to homeless children and youths, as described in section 722(g)(5).
15. The provision of pupil services (including violence prevention counseling) and referrals for such services.
16. Activities to address the particular needs of homeless children and youths that may arise from domestic violence.
17. The adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any non-school facilities made available under subsection (a)(2) to provide services under this subsection.
18. The provision of school supplies, including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations.
19. The provision of other extraordinary or emergency assistance needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school.

Allocations

The following allocations assigned to each region cannot be exceeded:

- **Region 1. (\$679,423)** Philadelphia County
- **Region 2. (\$807,254)** Schuylkill, Berks, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon and Dauphin counties
- **Region 3. (\$364,404)** Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Franklin, Adams and York counties
- **Region 4. (\$445,756)** Fulton, Bedford, Somerset, Fayette, Greene, Washington, Westmoreland, Allegheny and Beaver counties
- **Region 5. (\$270,431)** Erie, Crawford, Warren, McKean, Forest, Clarion, Venango, Mercer, Butler and Lawrence counties

- **Region 6. (\$224,347)** Armstrong, Indiana, Jefferson, Elk, Clearfield, Cambria, Cameron, Potter, Clinton, Centre and Blair counties
- **Region 7. (\$282,739)** Tioga, Lycoming, Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Wayne, Lackawanna, Pike, Monroe, Carbon, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, Snyder, Union and Northumberland counties
- **Region 8. (\$458,650)** Northampton, Lehigh, Bucks, Montgomery and Delaware counties

Duration of Services: July 1, 2026- June 30, 2031 (With an opportunity to renew annually)

Solicitation Start Date: April 20, 2026

Solicitation End Date: June 2, 2026

Solicitation Due Time: 12:00 PM

Contact Information: Storm Y. Camara, 717.772.2066, scamara@pa.gov

To view the 2026 RFA before completing, please visit the [Homeless Education page](#) for additional information. Be advised that beginning in 2026, all applications must be completed through the E-grants system.