

## NEW! EHCY Virtual Office Hours

Starting this month, we will be offering virtual office hours twice a month! You're invited to stop in with a question or to listen to the questions of others. This will not be a structured time and is not intended for networking. Rather, it is a time to ask your questions and listen to the questions of others. You can stay for three minutes or the full hour. The dates and times are varied, but the call-in information will remain the same:

Join on your computer: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in: (608) 620-9781, Conference ID: 877 592 534#

DATES		
February 25, 12:00 p.m.	April 14, 9:00 a.m.	May 27, 12:00 p.m.
March 11, 1:30 p.m.	April 29, 9:00 a.m.	June 8, 9:00 a.m.
March 22, 1:30 p.m.	May 11, 2:00 p.m.	

As always, you are welcome to reach out to us any time with questions. We hope this will also be a learning opportunity for anyone interested!

## School Reopening and Students Experiencing Homelessness

As many districts are moving into hybrid models or bringing students back to school full time in cohorts, we've had many questions about what to do if there is not space (due to social distancing requirements) in a school of origin classroom. Students experiencing homelessness cannot be denied in-person instruction because of space. If there is not space in a student's school of origin, they must be given priority on a waitlist. We also encourage districts to prioritize any students experiencing homelessness for in-person learning. Many districts are choosing to place students in other classrooms where there may be space or offering the option to attend in another building where there is space (along with transportation). Districts should look at all options to remove barriers to student attendance. We encourage homeless liaisons to continue advocating for students experiencing homelessness during reopening to ensure a plan is in place to support these students.

## Upcoming Webinars

### February 24, 8:30 a.m. - DPI Quarterly Webinar

We'll be joined by a panel from the Wisconsin Technical College System and school district homeless liaisons to talk about how to build connections between K-12 and WTCS to support students experiencing homelessness. If you have a partnership with someone in a local technical college, we'd love to hear from you and talk with you about participating in our panel!

### March 18, 9:00 a.m. - EHCY Compliance Grant Informational Webinar

Any LEA interested in applying for the 2021-23 EHCY Compliance Grant should plan to join us at this time for an informational webinar about the grant application and requirements of the grant. If you cannot attend at this time, the webinar will be recorded. Please complete this survey to ensure you receive information to connect to the webinar: <https://forms.gle/SSuiaymzpag3pdQx7>

### March 18, 11:30 a.m. - Lunch Time Live Homeless Liaison Chat Series

## Announcing the NEW 2021-23 EHCY Compliance Grant!

DPI is happy to announce the new 2021-23 EHCY Compliance Grant! The grant application will be available spring 2021 and is available to all Wisconsin LEAs, including public school districts and independent charter schools.

### The purpose of the 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.

### Grant Overview

Funding: Year 1: \$10,000, Year 2: \$5,000

### Requirements during the 2-year grant:

- Focus on either Identification and Enrollment OR Staff and Community Awareness.
- Complete the compliance review process.
- Participate in quarterly technical assistance calls and other meetings or trainings as requested by the DPI EHCY team.

For more information, visit: <https://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/compliance-grant>

## Spending Title I Homeless Reservation Funds

Many districts have not yet budgeted or spent the homeless reservation in their Title I, Part A budgets. We encourage homeless liaisons to connect with ESEA coordinators to advocate for how the funds can be used during the remainder of this academic year to support students experiencing homelessness. More information on the use of funds can be found here: [https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/homeless/pdf/2020-21\\_DPI\\_Title\\_I\\_Part\\_A\\_Homeless\\_Reservation\\_Guidance.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/homeless/pdf/2020-21_DPI_Title_I_Part_A_Homeless_Reservation_Guidance.pdf).

A PDF of this eBrief is available on the [DPI EHCY Webpage](#)

A Newsletter from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction,  
Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent

## eBrief Sign-Up

If you know of others who would like to receive this eBrief, please share [this link](#) so they can be added to our mailing list.

## New Resources!

### New FAFSA Policies

A report from SchoolHouse Connection that includes new information about FAFSA for students experiencing homelessness. These new policies don't go into effect until 2023, so we will address them in greater detail as it gets closer.

### Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds and Students Experiencing Homelessness

Federal ESSER II funds are in the process of being distributed to districts. We encourage liaisons to get involved in making decisions on how those funds will be spent. The SchoolHouse Connection report provides details on how to use the ESSER II funds to support students experiencing homelessness.

### Mental Health Law

During the February 11th Lunch Time Live, information was shared about the Mental Health Law in Wisconsin. Here are the links that were shared:

[Mental Health Law 204 Petition for Review Sample](#)  
[Mental Health Review Officer Process](#)

## State Coordinator Corner

Karen and Kristine continue to work from home for the foreseeable future. We are still available to answer any questions any time!

We have been busy presenting, working with our Community of Practice, and planning upcoming opportunities.

## Resources

[DPI EHCY website](#)  
[NCHE](#)  
[NAEHCY](#)  
[SchoolHouse Connection](#)  
[McKinney-Vento Act](#)  
[McKinney-Vento Non-Regulatory Guidance](#)

## Contacts

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