

Date: June 2, 2021

To: District Administrators, Independent Charter School Administrators, Cooperative Educational Service Agency Administrators, and Local Educational Agency Homeless Liaisons

From: Jonas Zuckerman
Director, Title I and School Success

Subject: ARPA Homeless Children and Youth Grant Opportunity

I am pleased to announce the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is accepting applications for the American Rescue Plan Act-Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) grant. DPI received funds through the Federal [American Rescue Plan Act - Homeless Children and Youth grant](#); ARP-HCY Part I funds must be awarded to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) that have been through a competitive grant process. Due to these requirements, this is an expedited application process, with a shorter application timeline. The intent of the ARP-HCY grant is to distribute funds to LEAs with high numbers of students experiencing homelessness and high needs. The competitive ARP-HCY grant period will run from late summer 2021 until June 30, 2024.

Suggestions for LEAs on using ARP-HCY Part I funds to support students experiencing homelessness include:

- Increasing outreach and identification
- Increasing counseling and social work services to meet rising mental health needs
- Enhancing family engagement services, such as hiring “systems navigators”
- Providing academic coaching, tutoring, mentoring, enrichment opportunities, access to summer learning, and other wrap-around services
- Expanding early childhood education services for young children experiencing homelessness
- Improving LEA systems and processes to remove barriers to students experiencing homelessness
- Providing more and better transportation options

Wisconsin LEAs, including public school districts and independent charter schools, are encouraged to apply. All LEAs not currently receiving EHCY or ARP-HCY Part I funds are eligible to apply. Based on the number of students experiencing homelessness reported in the 2019-20 certified data, LEAs with 100 or fewer students are eligible to apply for

\$30,000 and LEAs with over 100 students are eligible to apply for \$50,000. Award recipients will receive funding beginning in the 2021-22 school year and ARP-HCY Part I funds are expected to be available until June 30, 2024.

USDE has encouraged State Educational Agencies to allocate ARP-HCY Part I funds in an expedited manner. In response to this request, DPI is providing LEAs with a shortened grant application and an expedited application and review process. The grant application and guidelines can be found on DPI's ARP-HCY webpage at <https://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/arp-hcy>. DPI EHCY coordinators are holding an information session on June 8, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Use the following link to join this information session: <https://bit.ly/3ujzUtZ>.

Grant applications must be received electronically by DPI no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 18, 2021. Please direct all questions regarding this grant opportunity to Clara Pfeiffer, EHCY Grants Specialist, at clara.pfeiffer@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 261-6324.

JZ:lg