

## New Grant Cycle Information!

The 2020-23 EHCY grant is now available! The grant application and grant guidelines are found on the [EHCY grant page](#). For those interested in applying, please note that there is a strong emphasis on innovation and equity for this grant cycle.

Just a reminder, to access the data required for the grant application, you need to have the “economic indicator role” in WISEdash Secure. If you do not currently have this role, please talk with your District Security Administrator to be granted access, or work with the person in your district who is assigned that role.

DPI is hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** to provide more information about the grant to those who are interested in applying. Visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/grant-info> to join the webinar on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested in funds to support your district in meeting compliance with McKinney-Vento, instead of focusing on innovative practices to support students experiencing homelessness, we will be releasing a mini-grant opportunity in spring of 2021. This will be a great opportunity for districts with smaller numbers of identified students, or districts that need support with compliance, to apply for grant funds.

## Upcoming Webinar

DPI EHCY Coordinators have hosted three webinars this year on Identification and Enrollment, Transportation, and Anti-Human Trafficking. The fourth in our series will take place on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. The topic of this webinar is the Role and Responsibilities of the Homeless Liaison. Lisa Dolan, Homeless Liaison from Spotsylvania County Public Schools, will be joining our webinar to share her story about taking over the district homeless liaison role as a school social worker. Registration information will be sent out soon.

If you were unable to attend the first three webinars, the PowerPoint presentations and recordings are available on our [training resources page](#).

## Shelter for 17 Year Olds

In November of 2019, Wisconsin Assembly Bill 52 was passed, which allows 17 year olds to access adult homeless shelters. The bill can be found [here](#).

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, homeless liaisons are responsible to identify students experiencing homelessness and determine if a student is an unaccompanied homeless youth. The bill clearly outlines that a homeless liaison can disclose a 17 year old’s unaccompanied homeless youth identification to a shelter, with the consent of the student, so that student may be able to access a shelter facility. The homeless liaison is only responsible for confirming the unaccompanied homeless youth designation if a shelter asks.

## Summer School Transportation

Every spring there are questions about summer school transportation. The National Center for Homeless Education has provided the following guidance on summer school:

- Students have the right to attend their school of origin or their school of residence for summer school. The district needs to have a conversation with the family to make a best interest determination for which school the student should attend, presuming that the school of origin is in the best interest of the student as stated in the McKinney-Vento Act.
- If a student attends a school of residence for summer school that does not change their right to attend their school of origin for the school year if they continue to experience homelessness.
- Districts must provide transportation when the student is required to attend summer school for instruction/academic support. If a summer school is only enrichment programming, then transportation might not be required since the summer school is not required for the student to attend.
- If the district provides transportation to summer school for non-homeless students, then transportation must be provided to students experiencing homelessness since it is a comparable service. Transportation is required for enrichment programs if the district transports other students to the same program.
- The school of origin district and the district of residence split the cost of transportation, even if one of the districts does not provide summer school for their own students.

## 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.

## Feedback Survey

We recently updated our website and would appreciate your feedback! Please fill out [this 2 minute survey](#) to provide feedback on the website.

## New Resources!

**Privacy, FERPA, and Student Homelessness** [SchoolHouse Connection](#) has recently released [a resource on privacy, FERPA, and student homelessness](#). A student’s homeless status is protected information. Please reach out to DPI EHCY Staff if there are additional questions.

## Purposity.com

Purposity is a free app that allows users to quickly and easily see and fulfill the physical needs of local students. For more information [view this video](#) or visit [www.purposity.com](http://www.purposity.com)

## State Coordinator Corner

In January, Karen and Kristine presented at the Beyond Housing Conference in NYC on identification practices and resources in Wisconsin.



Kristine & Karen

## Resources

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

## Collaboration with School Nutrition Staff

DPI EHCY Staff are collaborating more with the School Nutrition team at DPI to support students experiencing homelessness. It is very important for liaisons to work closely with their district nutrition staff. A student's free lunch status cannot be backdated and begins at the time nutrition staff are notified. It is important for liaisons to notify nutrition staff immediately when a student is identified as experiencing homelessness. Districts are encouraged to have procedures in place to ensure this immediate notification.

## Preschool Development Grant

Exciting news! A Preschool Development Grant (PDG) has been awarded to the WI Department of Children and Families to increase **access to high-quality, affordable, local early care and education opportunities for all children and families in Wisconsin**. Everyone with an interest in positively effecting the lives of Wisconsin's youngest students and their families are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts and experience at the upcoming [listening sessions](#) being held across the state. Additional information about the PDG goals and activities can be found at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/pdg>.

Please contact Lana Edwards, Early Childhood Outreach Specialist, with any questions at [edwardsl@cesa5.org](mailto:edwardsl@cesa5.org).

## Title I Homeless Reservation

In the August eBrief, information was shared about the required reservation of Title I funds for students experiencing homelessness. As districts begin to develop budgets for the 2020-21 school year, it is important for homeless liaisons to be a part of budget conversations. Students experiencing homelessness are automatically eligible for Title I services, whether or not they attend a school that receives Title I funds. The reservation funds can be used to provide comparable academic services to students experiencing homelessness who do not attend a Title I school. They may also be used to provide services to students, including those attending Title I schools, that are not ordinarily provided to other Title I students (Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 U.S.C. §6313(c)(3)(A)), such as additional academic support or additional services, like counseling or transportation.

**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

[McKinney-Vento Non-Regulatory Guidance](#)

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