

Show Me the Money: Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness and Foster Care with ARP Funding

Federal Programs – ESSA and IDEA Summer Learning Professional Series

July 14, 2021

Presenters:

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Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement



Agenda

CARES Act Overview Brief

COVID's Impact on Identification: McKinney-Vento Students and Students in Foster Care

Funding Updates: American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Strategies to Support Students with ARP Funding

Resources

Questions/ Discussion

K-12 CARES Act Funding: \$411 million to support Georgia's Schools



At-risk student populations supporting students with disabilities, English Learners, migrant students, homeless students, low-income students, children in foster care



Distance/Remote Learning – devices, hot spots; internet service; instructional packets/resources; online learning platforms



School Meals – preparing/delivering meals; costs for meals not covered by USDA; hazard pay; transportation costs



Mental and Physical Health – counseling; telehealth; school nursing; therapeutic services; wraparound supports; training



Supplemental Learning – extended learning schedules; remediation; before/after school programs; additional pay for teachers and mentors



Facilities and Equipment – deep cleaning buildings/buses; PPE (such as masks, gloves, disinfectants) and supplies; hazard pay



Professional Development – training for school leaders, teachers, and staff; extended PD days



Continuity of Core Staff and Services – restoring potential budget reductions; offsetting need to furlough school staff

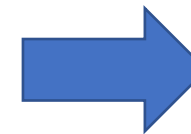
Superintendent Woods is strongly committed to:

- **Urgency & Access** – Funds will be awarded to districts as quickly as possible so they can address pressing needs and conduct long-term planning
- **Flexibility** – GaDOE will make it as seamless as possible for districts to utilize these funds
- **Equity** – funds will be used to fill gaps in connectivity, food security, learning opportunities, and non-academic supports with an emphasis on meeting the needs of Georgia's most struggling students
- **Transparency** – GaDOE will collect and report on how districts draw down and spend their funding across the CARES Act categories

ESSER Timelines (Period of Availability)



ESSER Grants	Grant Period	Tydings (Carryover)
CARES Act-ESSER I	March 13, 2020-September 30, 2021	October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022
CRRSA Act-ESSER II	March 13, 2020-September 30, 2022	October 1, 2021-September 30, 2023
ARP Act-ESSER III	March 13, 2020-September 30, 2023	October 1, 2021-September 30, 2024



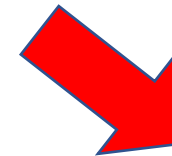
How is your district's strategic planning going to sustain the innovation created by ESSER funds?



Achieving longevity & Cost Effective goals.



Does your plan supports input and buy-in from your community, partners, and stakeholders?



Does your plan support disadvantaged students (i.e. homeless youth and youth in foster care)?

COVID-19 and Students Experiencing Homelessness and Foster Care

As the new year begins, what can LEAs do to ensure educational stability for students experiencing homelessness and in care?

- Partner with child welfare agencies and community stakeholders
- Connect every child experiencing homelessness and in foster care with school resources
- Target support for students in special education
- Review policies or processes that may create barriers to education



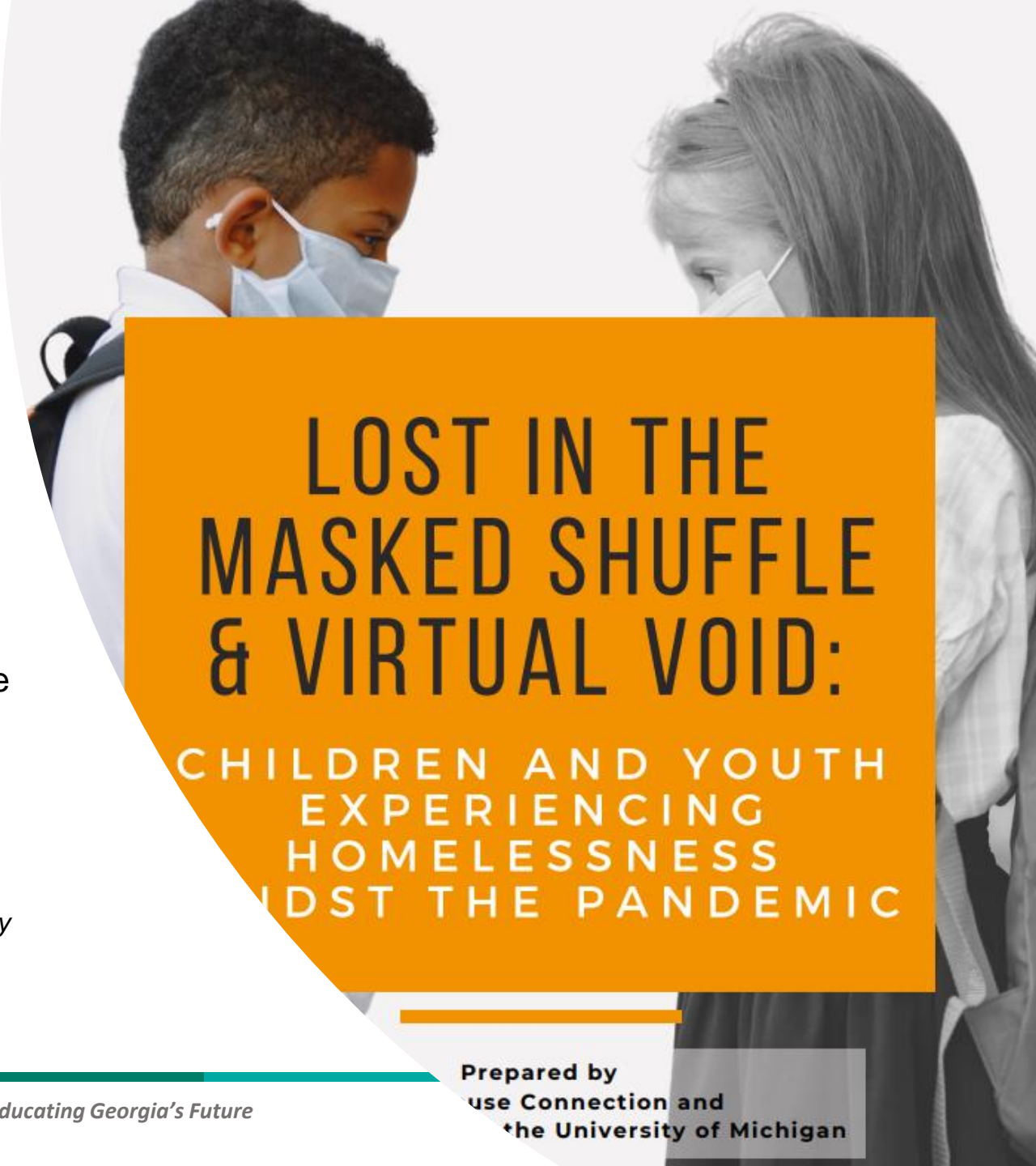
COVID's Impact on Identification

McKinney-Vento and Foster Care Students

McKinney-Vento Act

- An estimated 420,000 fewer children and youth experiencing homelessness have been identified and enrolled by schools so far this school year.
- While overall homeless student identification and enrollment is down, the number of children and youth experiencing homelessness has likely increased due to the economic crisis.
- Children and youth experiencing homelessness face significant unmet needs in their communities.
- Federal education relief funds are not reaching homeless families, children, and youth.

Source: SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan Brief. "Lost in the Masked Shuffle & Virtual Void: Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Amidst the Pandemic"



**LOST IN THE
MASKED SHUFFLE
& VIRTUAL VOID:
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS
AMIDST THE PANDEMIC**

Prepared by
SchoolHouse Connection and
Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan

Identification: McKinney-Vento Student Count

Number of children and youth experiencing homelessness identified by Georgia LEAs:

FY21 = ???

FY20 = 35,565

FY19 = 41,611

FY18 = 41,089

FY17 = 39,966

FY16 = 39,695

FY15 = 39,113

FY14 = 29,138

FY13 = 35,764

FY12 = 35,048

FY11 = 31,384

FY10 = 27,338

FY09 = 23,724

FY08 = 15,700

GaDOE Student Information System (SIS) – Unduplicated count within each LEA



Foster Care

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unique challenges for students in foster care and their caregivers.

- Delays in permanency for children in foster care
- Online learning for children in care
- Aging out in a pandemic
- Halted in-person court proceedings
- Increased disruptions in students' living and school placements

*Source: FAQ Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs
Governor's Emergency Education Relief Programs*

Identification: Student Count (Foster Care)

- Due to student mobility, students may have attended and may have been suspended in more than one school district. For this reason, the sum of system totals should not be expected to match the overall state totals. (NOTE: includes DJJ, state and charter schools)

Identified Students in Foster Care	
FY 17 - 18	12,035
FY 18 - 19	12,267
FY 19 - 20	11,075
Graduation Rates	
FY 17 - 18	37.2%
FY 18 - 19	38.5%
FY 19 - 20	42.4%

FY 17-18 OSS Rate	
Georgia	5.9%
Foster Care	18.9%

FY 18-19 OSS Rate	
Georgia	6.2%
Foster Care	19.7%

FY 19-20 OSS Rate	
Georgia	5.0%
Foster Care	17.1%



Funding Updates

The American Rescue Plan (ARP)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Program Funding Sources



Foster Care Funding Sources

Potential Custom Foster Care Set-Aside

- The Title I, Part A Foster Care Education requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) has no corresponding budget; however, because the requirements fall under Title I, Part A, any proposed activities that required funding could come from Title I, Part A
- If an LEA desires to use a portion of the Title I, Part A allocation to support supplemental academic activities for children in care, then the LEA should:
 - Consult with the Title I, Part A Area Specialist
 - Develop a rational method to determine a reasonable amount to reserve to address the educational needs
 - Create a **Custom Foster Care Set-Aside** in the Consolidated Application under Data Collections in the Set-Aside tab

Updates



SEA Requirements: American Rescue Act Plan (ARP)

- The funds come from the nearly **\$123 billion** in aid that the bill provides for K-12 education.
- **\$800 million** in dedicated funding to support the identification, enrollment, and school participation of children and youth experiencing homelessness, including through wrap-around services.
- More than Congress has appropriated for the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness over the last ten years, combined.
- **1% of state-level ARP total targeted to children and youth experiencing homelessness.**
- Also, **\$100 million** for the Institution of Education Sciences to conduct research related to addressing learning loss amongst marginalized student groups, including students experiencing homelessness and children and youth in foster care.

Funding Updates- American Rescue Plan (ARP)



Additional details regarding allocations will be shared soon!

Overview

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SEA Responsibilities

- Funding will be made available in two phases- ARP Homeless I and ARP Homeless II.
- GaDOE has been awarded a total of **\$27,835,648.**
- Funds must be distributed quickly to meet the immediate needs of students experiencing homelessness.
- ED is specifically requiring that the Office of the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth administer the funds.
- ARP Homeless funds are supplemental to the supports and services provided with ESSER funds.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Overview

Georgia Receives \$4,249,371,244					\$27,835,648
90% of Funds to Local Educational Agencies		10% of Funds to the State Education Agency			ARP Homeless
\$3,824,434,120		\$424,937,124			Homeless I \$6,958,912
Learning Loss (20%)	\$764,886,824	5% Learning Loss \$212,468,562	1% Summer Enrichment \$42,493,712	1% After School Program \$42,493,712	Homeless II \$20,876,736
Other (80%)	\$3,059,547,296	Administration \$21,246,856	Other \$106,234,281		Provide training, technical assistance, capacity building, and engagement at the State and LEA levels

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance ARP Homeless I - Uses of Funds

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

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)

Providing store cards/prepaid debit cards to purchase materials necessary for students to participate in school activities.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance ARP Homeless II



USED published an emergency final rule (found on our website at the link above) that requires a State educational agency (SEA) to award ARP Homeless II funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) based on a formula.

This requirement is intended to streamline the SEA grant award process and enable more LEAs to receive subgrants and more students experiencing homelessness to receive services.

This formula is based on (1) an LEA's share of the fiscal year (FY) 2020 Title I allocation and (2) homeless student enrollment counts from the 2018-19 or 2019-20 school year, whichever number is greater.

Source: Guidance from USED Director of School Support and Accountability

<https://oese.ed.gov/offices/american-rescue-plan/american-rescue-plan-elementary-secondary-school-emergency-relief-homeless-children-youth-arp-hcy/>.

Strategies to Support Students with ARP Funds



ESSER Programs (Foster Care)

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds may be used broadly to address the unique needs of students in foster care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Transporting students in foster care to their respective schools of origin where LEAs are offering in-person learning, hybrid learning, or supplemental instruction/coaching opportunities;
- Purchasing technology (including laptops, Wi-Fi hotspots, or tablets) that enable students in foster care to consistently access instruction;
- Providing academic supports—including tutoring or supplemental instructional opportunities—to meet the unique learning needs of students in foster care;
- Helping students and/or caregivers meet their basic needs, including access to meals and hygienic supplies (such as masks or hand sanitizer); and
- Meeting rising mental health and behavioral needs (for example, contracting with community mental health providers to support students virtually and/or on-site at school).

Supporting Students with ARP Funds

Increase

Increase outreach and identification

Enhance

Enhance communication options with students and families

Increase

Increase counseling and social work services

Hire

Hire systems navigators to help families and youth access education and other ARP Services

Provide

Provide academic coaching, in-person enrichment opportunities and access to summer learning.

Offer

Offer early childhood education services for young children experiencing homelessness

Make

Make systems and processes more McKinney-Vento friendly.

Help

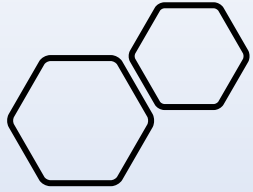
Help meet rising mental health needs.

Provide

Provide more and better transportation options.



Source: [How to Use American Rescue Plan Act K-12 Education Funds to Identify and Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness | SchoolHouse Connection](#)



Supporting Students with ARP Funds: McKinney- Vento State Advisory Council

GaDOE has developed a McKinney-Vento State Advisory Council. The advisory board consists of experienced liaisons that:

- Assist with developing innovative practices.
- Serve as advisors on state initiatives.



Questions



Resources



- [FY20 McKinney Vento Annual Report](#)
- [FY20 Foster Care Annual Report](#)
- [Tip Sheet for School Districts Re: COVID-19 and Students in Foster Care](#)
- [Preparing for the New School Year During COVID-19: A Checklist for LEAs and Child Welfare Agencies](#)
- [Frequently Asked ARP-HCY Questions and Answers - Office of Elementary and Secondary Education](#)

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Feedback

Please complete our workshop survey:

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- Or scan this QR code:



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