

## FY26 EHCY Continuation Grant Program Information Instructions

### McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act guarantees a free, appropriate public education for all homeless children and youth by removing barriers to their enrollment and attendance in school and supporting their educational success.

### Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Grant Funds

The EHCY funding source is the U.S. Department of Education, through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001 (Title X, Part C of the *No Child Left Behind Act*, P.L. 107-110), as amended by Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015.

The purpose of McKinney-Vento subgrant funds is to eliminate specific barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success of children and youth experiencing homelessness through [the allowable 16 activities](#) outlined statute (42 U.S.C. § 11433(d)).

The State Education Agency (SEA) must facilitate a competitive subgrant process at least once every three years to allocate EHCY funds to LEAs. EHCY subgrant awards are contingent upon the annual state allocation provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

### EHCY Subgrant Funding Guidelines

The EHCY grant runs on a three-year grant cycle to **supplement, not supplant** the existing services provided to all students to eliminate specific barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success of children and youth experiencing homelessness. FY26 is the final year of the three-year EHCY grant cycle, with FY27 being the first year of the upcoming three-year EHCY grant cycle.

Applicants can find the following resources in the Resource Library, Related Documents page, and [EHCY funding page](#):

- Program Narrative Questions
- Grant Application Checklist and Scoresheet
- Grant Funding Formula
- Allowable Uses of Funds
- EHCY & ARP-HCY Use of Funds Tip Sheet

To receive an award, applicants must comply with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and applicable state laws related to homelessness. Awards are made on the quality of the project and its ability to excel as a model for Arizona. In addition, proposals must show a well-developed, feasible plan for servicing the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness, including **but not limited to** professional learning opportunities, an evaluation plan, and strong collaboration with at least one community-based organization, public agency, or other nonprofit organization.

All EHCY funds should be spent according to the Director Approved project proposal and within the project availability of the funds, which concludes September 30, 2026. Any updates to the original Director Approved project proposal must be requested by completing a budget revision to the

original EHCY grant application before the expenditure. Once the revision has received Director Approval, the expenditure changes may occur, and must be included in the annual report.

LEAs are required to submit Reimbursement Requests to access the allocations for grants administered by the Arizona Department of Education. To this end, LEAs should endeavor to submit regular and timely FY25 EHCY Reimbursement Requests for expenditures incurred at the LEA-level to ensure that all funds are obligated by September 30, 2026, and drawn-down within the 90-day liquidation period. Please reference the Quarterly Fiscal Report provided by Grants Management Enterprise (GME) to monitor your LEA's reimbursement activity and ensure the timely draw-down of funds.

Reimbursement Requests can only be submitted for budgeted items and services that have received prior Director Approval and for expenditures which have already been incurred.

**Carryover will be allowed at the conclusion of the FY26 project period, September 30, 2026, into FY27 to accommodate the one-year project period extensions for the FY24 and FY25 EHCY grant funds, respectively.**

**Please note that although there is a year extension for the FY24 and FY25 EHCY project periods and carryover is allowed for the FY26 EHCY funds, subgrantees should endeavor to utilize their annual subgrant awards during the original project period. Subgrant awards are designated to address the current needs of students experiencing homelessness during the project period for which the award is received ([29 C.F.R. §97.23](#)).**

**Additionally, limiting the amount carried over from one fiscal year to the next may mitigate an increase for subgrantees' [risk assessments](#) in GME ([2 C.F.R. §200.332\(b\)](#)).**

#### **Education for Homeless Children & Youth – Continuation Important Dates and Deadlines**

- **Application Open Date:** March 1, 2025

- **Application Close Date:** May 1, 2025

- **Project Start Date:** July 1, 2025

- **Project End Date:** September 30, 2026

- **Reimbursement Request Deadline:** All Reimbursement Requests must be submitted and approved PRIOR to the project end date. Reimbursement Request deadlines will be set, as applicable, based on ADE/ADOA Accounting requirements for fiscal year and/or projected end dates.

- **Completion Reports Available:** July 1, 2026

For program questions and support, please reach out via the following email: [Homeless@azed.gov](mailto:Homeless@azed.gov)

For technical assistance with GME, submit a Service Ticket at <https://helpdeskexternal.azed.gov/>