

Guiding Questions and Considerations for Local HEPs

Guiding Questions

To support the development of a dynamic and data-driven HEP, please consider the guiding questions below:

- What other data points, including academic data, should be considered to holistically understand and address the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness?
- What does the data reveal about the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness?
- What programs and services are currently provided to all students, to which children and youth experiencing homelessness also access, to meet these needs?
- What needs identified in the data are not addressed by current programs and services provided to all students?
- Given the structure of the school day and year, when might programs and services be provided solely and exclusively to meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness?
- How can the HEP staff roles and responsibilities be tailored to address the unique educational needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness and distinguished from those of teachers/staff, who are funded through other sources?
- How will the services offered by your program be integrated and coordinated with those provided by other programs, such as 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Migrant Education Program, etc.?

To ensure that that the HEP continuously adapts to meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness throughout the school year and summer, please refer to guiding questions below:

- What ongoing data will be collected to analyze the effectiveness of the HEP and adapt the HEP to continuously meet the dynamic, unique needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness? How frequently will this be done?
- What does the data reveal about the extent to which the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness are being met by the current programs and services offered through the HEP, and other funding sources?
- What needs revealed from the analysis of this ongoing data collection are not addressed by current programs and services provided to all students?
- What adaptations should be made to the current programs and services?
- Given the structure of the school day and year, when might programs and services be provided solely and exclusively to meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness?
- How will the services offered by your program be integrated and coordinated with those provided by other programs such as 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Migrant Education Program, etc.?

Criteria for Consideration

When determining if EHCY funds can be used for a particular activity, or an instructional or support service, please refer to the following guidance:

- EHCY funds are to facilitate the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth.
- The activity or service meets the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness that are not addressed by services provided to all students through any other Federal or non-Federal programs (Sections 723(a)(2)(A)(iii), 723(a)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(4).
- The EHCY funds are used to supplement, rather than supplant the use of non-Federal funds.
- The costs of the service or activity must comport with the cost principles described in the Uniform Guidance (Subpart E of 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200). The cost principles require, among other things, that costs of the service or activity be reasonable and necessary, and be allocable (or chargeable) to the HEP relative to the benefit received.