Reducing Barriers for Students Experiencing Homelessness

Office of Supplemental Educational Programs

Overview

Students have experienced loss, illness, economic hardships, disrupted learning, trauma, and stress as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. While COVID-19 has touched all students, it has deepened pre-existing inequities facing students of color, students from low-income backgrounds, multilingual learners, students with disabilities, LGBTQI+ students, **students experiencing homelessness**, and other underserved students. These challenges can have a direct impact on student learning and growth. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) provides states, districts, and schools with significant federal resources to implement evidence-based strategies to accelerate learning through integrated and targeted supports, instructional approaches, tutoring, and high-quality out-of-school time.

New Jersey Partnership for Student Success

Learning Acceleration (NJDOE)

New Jersey McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program (NJDOE)

Promising Practices

1 — Maximizing Federal Funds to Support Learning Acceleration (NJDOE)

The Maximizing Federal Funds website provides school and school district leaders, Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), grant administrators, educators, and other stakeholders with information about how different Federal funds may be used to meet their specific, identified needs. This resource is best used within LEA's cycle of continual improvement. On a continual basis, LEAs in collaboration with diverse stakeholders identify students' needs, particularly the needs of the most vulnerable and those most impacted by COVID-19. Once these needs are identified, the examples can provide ideas and inspiration about how to best use ARP-ESSER money and how to pair it with more sustainable Federal funding streams to have the most positive and lasting impacts on students and schools.

2 — National Student Support Accelerator A Tutoring Connection

Using ARP-HCY Funds to Build a Program High-Impact Tutoring: Equitable and Effective Learning Acceleration

3 — Insitute on Community Integration (University of Minnesota)

As schools continue to adapt their learning environments, maintaining connections to students has been challenging. Check & Connect recognizes that relationships are paramount and that students need the mentor's support now more than ever. In response to this changing environment, the Check & Connect team has developed the Online Mentoring Guide. This guide offers strategies for fostering online relationships, planning conversations around school, and facilitating online interventions.

National Center for Homeless Education

Data and Statistics

Only 64% of homeless students graduate from high school.

Homeless students are **87%** more likely to drop out of school than their stably housed peers.

Resources

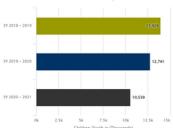**Using ARP Funding for High Impact Tutoring**

Effective Facilitation of Tutoring (Video)

Check & Connect: A mentoring intervention to improve student engagement

Number of Homeless Children and Youth (2020-2021)

Number of Homeless Children/Youth Enrolled in Public School by Year

SY 2018 - 2019	13,929
SY 2019 - 2020	12,741
SY 2020 - 2021	10,539

Children/Youth in (Thousands)