

Availability of Funds for Students Displaced by 2017 Disasters

MAY 2018

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) has released [information about hurricane and disaster relief programs](#) which will provide \$2.5 billion to assist schools in meeting the educational needs of students displaced by the disasters of 2017 (Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, and the California fires), and students who are experiencing homelessness as a result of these disasters. On behalf of Ohio public and nonpublic schools, the Ohio Department of Education (Department) will apply for the two grants described below. To be considered for these federal financial assistance funds, Ohio public districts and nonpublic schools must complete and submit, **by May 15**, the applications to the Department. Links to each application are provided below.

Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students (CFDA number 84.938A)

Purpose: Provide assistance to Ohio public schools, school districts and nonpublic schools that have enrolled students displaced during the 2017-2018 school year by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, or the 2017 California wildfires.

Funding Amounts: The annual per pupil amounts shall be the sums of up to **\$9,000** for each displaced student who is an English learner; **\$10,000** for each displaced student reported as a child with a disability; and **\$8,500** for each displaced student who is not reported as a child with a disability or an English learner. The total amount of a payment on behalf of a displaced student enrolled in a nonpublic school may not exceed the lesser of the above per pupil amounts or the cost of tuition and fees at the nonpublic school during the 2017-2018 school year.

Allowable Uses of Funds: Emergency Impact Aid funds can be used for allowable costs of educating public and nonpublic school students displaced by a covered disaster for the 2017-2018 school year only. This includes 1) Paying the compensation of personnel, including teacher aides, for schools enrolling displaced students; 2) Identifying and acquiring curricular material, including the costs of providing additional classroom supplies, and mobile educational units and leasing sites or spaces; 3) Providing basic instructional services to displaced students, including tutoring, mentoring or academic counseling; 4) Paying reasonable transportation costs; 5) Providing health and counseling services; and 6) Providing education and support services ([Hurricane Relief Act, Section 107](#)). In the case of nonpublic school students, an allowable use of funds includes tuition. The recipients of Emergency Impact Aid may use funds for pre-award costs, including the reimbursement of expenditures incurred prior to the receipt of the grant. In fact, the Department expects that this will be the use of these funds. While the activities and services must be related to serving displaced students, there is no requirement that the activities and services be provided only to displaced students. Use of these funds must be obligated by Dec. 31, 2018.

Definitions:

Displaced Students: The students for whom the state education agency may receive payments, are students who:

- On the date that is one week prior to the date that the major disaster or emergency was declared for the area, resided in an area for which the federal government later declared a major disaster or emergency related to a covered disaster or emergency; and
- As a result of their displacement by a covered disaster or emergency, are enrolled in an elementary school or secondary school other than the school that the student was enrolled in, or was eligible to be enrolled in, on the date that is one week prior to the date that the major disaster or emergency was declared for the area.

Note that the definition includes students who, on the date a count is taken, are enrolled in a school in their original district but, because of the impact of one of the covered disasters or emergencies, are not in their original school.

Eligible Local Educational Agency: A school or school district is eligible to receive funds if it enrolls or enrolled at least one displaced student on a date on which a child count is taken under this program; or serves an area in which at least one displaced nonpublic school child is enrolled on a date on which a count is taken.

Eligible Nonpublic School

This term refers to a nonpublic elementary school or secondary school that is accredited or licensed or otherwise operates in accordance with state law, was in existence on Feb. 9, 2018 and serves a displaced student on behalf of whom an application for an account has been made pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(A)(ii).

[Application Link](#)

[Additional Information Link](#)

Deadline: 5 p.m. EST, May 15, 2018

Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth (CFDA Number: 84.938B)

Purpose: Provide assistance to local schools and districts to support the needs of homeless students displaced by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma or Maria or the 2017 California wildfires.

Funding Amounts: The Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth program is a new, temporary program authorized as part of the Hurricane Education Recovery section of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. It provides a separate source of funding for schools and districts to address the needs of homeless students displaced by a covered disaster or emergency. Although this is a separate source of funding, schools and districts must use the funds awarded under the Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth program to support activities that are allowable under section 723 of the McKinney-Vento Act. A total of \$25 million is appropriated to support the needs of homeless students.

Allowable Uses of Funds: Allowable uses of funds under the Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth program are described in [Appendix 14.A: McKinney-Vento Subgrant Authorized Activities of the Homeless Liaison Toolkit](#). Aid recipients will have 24 months to expend these funds.

Definitions:

Displaced Student: This term refers to a student who enrolled in an elementary school or secondary school (other than the school that the student was enrolled in, or was eligible to be enrolled in, on the date that is one week prior to the date that the major disaster or emergency was declared for the area) because such student resides or resided on the date that is one week prior to the date that the major disaster or emergency was declared for the area, in an area for which a major disaster or emergency declared by the president in accordance with section 401 or 501, respectively, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170), related to a covered disaster or emergency. (Section 107(b)(1) of Title IV of Division B of Public Law 109-148, as modified by Division B, Subdivision 1, Title VIII of P.L. 115-123, the "Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.")

Homeless Children and Youths: This term refers to individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes:

- Children and youths who share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as "doubled-up"); living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; living in emergency or transitional shelters; or abandoned in hospitals;
- Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

(Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. § 11434a))

[Application Link](#)

[Additional Information Link](#)

Deadline: 5 p.m. EST, May 15, 2018

QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please review the [federal applications packages](#), under the K-12 program tab online, including a Frequently Asked Questions document to be provided by the U.S. Department of Education. The Ohio Department of Education will provide information as it becomes available.

Federal Contact Information

Emergency Impact Aid: Francisco Ramirez
202-260-1541 · K12EmergencyImpactAid@ed.gov

Homeless Children and Youth program: Peter Eldridge
202-260-2514 · HurricaneHomeless@ed.gov

State Contact Information

Homeless Children	614-387-7725
English Learners	614-466-4109
Student with Disabilities	614-466-2650
Nonpublic Students and Supports	877-644-6338
Federal Programs	614-466-4161