

**2022-2025 McKinney-Vento RFP Questions and Answers**

## General

<p>Please confirm the change of the McKinney-Vento competitive grant period from July 1 – June 30 for the current 2019-2022 grant to September 1 – August 31 for the new 2022-2025 grant.</p>	<p>The new McKinney-Vento RFP 22-25 grant period will cover three one-year periods:                  September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023;                  September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024; and                  September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025.</p>
<p>I’m a grant writer working for a school district that plans to apply for this McKinney-Vento Grant Program and the Office of Mental Health’s Student Mental Health Support Grants to School Districts, another large RFP that was recently released. They have similar deadlines, May 19 and May 25, which we’re finding challenging as we schedule out the work, as both applications require many of the same administrators in program planning, and we have spring break and school budget votes between now and then. Is there any chance you would consider delaying the deadline for this grant (even a week would be helpful), to help ensure district officials have time to put together a thoughtful and well-planned application?</p>	<p>Unfortunately, in order to complete the Department’s competitive grant process in time to meet the September 1, 2022, start date of the grant, the application due date must remain May 19, 2022.</p> <p>An electronic version of the complete application in Microsoft Word (.docx) or portable document format (.pdf) must be sent to <a href="mailto:homelessrfp@nysed.gov">homelessrfp@nysed.gov</a> by <b><u>no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 19, 2022.</u></b> Applications received after that date and time will not be reviewed.</p> <p>Applicants must also mail in one complete hardcopy application with original, authorized signature(s), as well as one original and two copies of the signed FS-10 budget. These materials must be postmarked by the application deadline, May 19, 2022.</p>
<p>For the grant narratives in Sections A and B and the program activity plan in Section B, are there any word count or formatting requirements?</p>	<p>Sections A and B each have a limit of 500 words. There are no formatting requirements.</p> <p>Directly from the RFP:  <b>For Section A</b> - Local Landscape, please complete questions 1-4 and the LEA Responsibilities Chart.                  Summary of Needs Assessment: In the space below, please include a brief (500 words or less) description of the LEA/consortium’s current need in supporting students in temporary housing.</p>

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	<p><b>For Section B-</b> For section B, please complete the Program Overview (Narrative) and Program Activity Plan. Program Overview: In the space below, please include a brief (500 words or less) overview of the LEA/consortium’s proposed McKinney-Vento program.</p>
<p>What is the difference between Primary Grant Contact and McKinney-Vento Liaison? Can they be one in the same?</p>	<p>The Primary Grant Contact is the person primarily responsible for the development of the response to the RFP. The McKinney-Vento Liaison serves as one of the primary contacts between homeless families, school staff, district personnel, shelter workers, and other service providers.</p> <p>The Primary Grant Contact may be the same as the McKinney-Vento Liaison if the Liaison has been the person to develop the grant application, including the program assessment, goals, and budget.</p>
<p>Can activities under the grant occur during the school day or are they restricted to occur before school, after school, weekend and summer?</p>	<p>Activities can occur during the school day, before and after school, during the weekend and during the summer. To the maximum extent practicable, an LEA must provide McKinney-Vento services through existing programs and mechanisms that integrate homeless and non-homeless children and youths. LEAs may provide subgrant services through programs on school grounds or at other facilities. If services are provided on school grounds, the school may use McKinney-Vento funds to provide the same services to other children and youths who are determined by the LEA to be at risk of failing or dropping out of school.</p>
<p>What is the indirect cost rate of public schools on this grant? Is it different for each LEA? Do we need to contact Grants Finance department for this information?</p>	<p>Indirect cost rates for school districts and BOCES are calculated using ST-3 and SA-111 data for the school year ending June 30. Districts are then notified of the rates to be used during the subsequent program year. Grants Finance shares this with LEAs on an individual basis. Contact <a href="#">Grants Finance</a> if you still have a question about your rate.</p>
<p>Can we include a link or an appendix of community partners for this grant? We have a large number of CBOs that partner with us. How can we ensure that we account for and provide you with</p>	<p>Please describe partnerships with CBOs within the grant in Section A and B. Both Section A -- Local Landscape (500 words) and Section B -- the Program Overview (Narrative) ask for an applicant to include a brief overview of the LEA/consortium’s proposed McKinney-Vento program. There is also an opportunity to describe the role CBO</p>

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<p>these partnerships within the page limitations of this grant?</p>	<p>partners will play in both the FS-10 and the Budget Narrative.</p>
<p>Thank you for the opportunity to ask questions about the upcoming 2022-2025 McKinney-Vento Grant Program. I have a question about the word count for the Section A -- Local Landscape. The total word count for (1) Summary of Needs Assessment is 500 words or less. Do you want us to provide you with the actual needs assessment we are completing for this grant, as well as the data we compile as evidence for that need, or do you just want a summary of the needs assessment and data in 500 words or less?</p>	<p>Section A of the RFP asks for a <b>summary</b> of 500 words or less.</p> <p><b>Directly from the RFP:</b>  <b>For Section A</b> - Local Landscape, please complete questions 1-4 and the LEA Responsibilities Chart. Summary of Needs Assessment: In the space below, please include a brief (500 words or less) summary of the needs assessment and data in 500 words or less.</p>
<p>If a not-for-profit is a participating consultant to the grant, does it have to go through the new prequalification process?</p>	<p>Not-for-profits serving as a consultant do not have to be prequalified. For the purposes of this RFP, only charter school applicants or charter schools serving as lead LEA in a consortium need to be prequalified. The prequalification requirement is covered on pages 4 and 9 of the RFP.</p>
<p>We are a current grantee, so, as I understand the directions on p. 13, we are NOT required to submit a Payee Information Form. Does that mean, also, that we do not have to show proof of registration in the federal System for Award Management?</p>	<p>Current grantees are not required to submit a Payee Information Form.</p> <p>All sub-grantees must maintain current registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) by reviewing their information (registration) annually. Please note: Effective April 4, 2022, the federal government replaced the former DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) with a new 12-character alpha-numeric value called the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) as the unique and official identifier for entities doing business with the federal government. NYSED will require the UEI for tracking and reporting purposes on federal grants awarded to sub-recipients.</p> <p>Entities with a DUNS number that are currently registered (active) in SAM.gov were to be automatically assigned a</p>

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	<p>UEI. Although no additional steps will be needed, entities must still maintain a current registration.</p> <p>Entities not registered or active in SAM, should register as soon as possible to ensure they are assigned a UEI. Failure to do that may delay the awarding of funds and/or payments through NYSED. To register your agency, obtain a UEI or update your registration, visit <a href="https://sam.gov">sam.gov</a>.</p> <p>Additional guidance about the UEI requirement can be found on the <a href="#">Federal Service Desk website</a> and the <a href="#">NYSED website</a>.</p>
<p>Does the consortium agreement form page require original signatures or are digital signatures sufficient?</p>	<p>Digital signatures are acceptable for consortium agreements.</p>
<p>Is the grant application for individual schools or do we apply as a school district?</p>	<p>The McKinney-Vento RFP 22-25 is open to New York State local educational agencies (LEAs). For the purposes of this RFP, LEAs are defined as <b>public school districts</b>, charter schools, and BOCES. BOCES may only apply as a part of a consortium. The NYC Department of Education is the eligible school district applicant for all of New York City.</p>
<p>We are rural community-based organization in Chautauqua County. Our question, we have a high number of children in our county who are in foster care. They are essentially homeless, separated from family and familiars. Children, who are essentially powerless, live in a situation that, to them, has no little or no continuity with regard to the localization of services. The lack of centralized services can clearly impact any program seeking a successful outcome for children living in stressful situations. How do we stop the transgenerational pattern of addiction, abuse, and</p>	<p>The McKinney-Vento RFP 22-25 is open to New York State local educational agencies (LEAs), which for the purposes of this RFP are <b>public school districts</b>, charter schools, and BOCES, are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity.</p> <p>Your organization could partner with LEAs within the county, and the LEAs within that county can apply for this grant as a consortium. Partnerships with local agencies and/or community-based organizations (CBOs) could provide wraparound services. These wraparound services may be included in the grant activity section of the application.</p>

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high-risk behaviors in our most vulnerable?

Many of the children we see through the Department of Health and Human Services are a result of homeless parents struggling with substance abuse, mental health issues, or domestic violence. We are contacted to offer supervised visitation but have limited opportunity to offer more. Ideally, we would like to expand our services to include a comprehensive program for children that would put essential services under one roof.

The RFP states that a minimum of 100 children are necessary to take advantage of this opportunity! How do we, with a county population of only 111,000 residents take advantage of this? I would estimate that this RFP eliminates most of NYS with the exception of the major urban areas.

Agency collaborations and partnerships are essential in rural areas to meet community needs, and we know that this grant could benefit many. We have highly satisfactory relationships with partner agencies who would gladly participate in the opportunity to have a 'one stop' facility on both ends of the county to actually meet needs in a timely and efficient manner.

In 1985, our organization completed a year-long survey to

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<p>assess homelessness as it exists in rural areas, resulting in <b>our data being included in the original Steward B. McKinney Act</b>. This reflection on smaller counties with limited resources are even more vital, in some ways than in many urban areas.</p> <p>So, we value the opportunity to contribute more data on rural homeless, for the purpose of not only enhancing your understanding of rural homelessness on a funding level, but also to efficiently and effectively continue to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents. All children are beneficiaries of our future, and because we aren't urban, should we be eliminated from this opportunity?</p> <p>We value your feedback and want to know if there is any way we can take advantage of this most important grant opportunity.</p>	
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## Fiscal / Qualification

<p>We are writing to inquire about our district's homelessness designation under NYSTEACHS. As a Special Act district serving students on the a children's services organization's campus, youth are placed here temporarily while awaiting ACS or CPS home and parent investigations of "fitness". We also serve a large population of students placed with us temporarily due to abuse, trafficking, and other trauma; awaiting permanent placements. The very nature of our student population is comprised of children awaiting a permanent home or other placement. Given that the placements are, in fact, temporary, we do not feel that residence on our campus should be considered "permanent" or "regular". Most of our students are awaiting permanent placements to group homes or assisted living facilities.</p> <p><b>Question 1:</b> Can LEAs serving a majority of students placed temporarily by ACS/CPS be considered eligible, despite NYSTEACHS reporting values under 100 "homeless"?</p> <p><b>Question 2:</b> Can Special Act districts serving students housed temporarily at a Residential Treatment Center, placed by ACS/CPS temporarily, be</p>	<p><b>Question 1.</b> Eligibility for this grant is based upon the number of homeless students, averaged over three years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21). To be eligible, an LEA must either have more than 100 students on average, or enter into a consortium with other districts to ensure that the 100-student average requirement is met. Students placed by Administration for Children's Services (ACS) or Child Protective Services (CPS) are not automatically deemed as homeless, and therefore the count of students placed by ACS or CPS does not impact an LEA's homeless count.</p> <p><a href="#">NYSTEACHS</a> is the New York State Technical and Educational Assistance Center for Homeless Children. It operates the technical assistance and information center for NYSED. NYSTEACHS is responsible for posting data, not designating homeless counts.</p> <p>Data are collected from schools, districts, and other education providers through the use of computerized data systems, then issued back to them in various forms as reports and tables. Data are collected and reported in accordance with Federal and State regulations. Regulations may contain specific requirements about how data are collected and reported, and policies often provide guidelines as to what may be considered valid data, both for collection and reporting.</p> <p>In the McKinney-Vento RFP 22-25, the averages are calculated using duplicated data from the data warehouse. Duplicated data is used to better reflect the fluid movement of students within LEAs. Here is a link for more information on the data warehouse, also known as <a href="#">Student Information Repository System (SIRS)</a>, which is electronic collection of student demographic, programs, assessment and enrollment data, as well as teacher/staff and course information.</p>
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<p>considered, regardless of the NYSTEACHS homeless total?</p>	<p><b>Question 2.</b> Single LEAs (which include public school districts and charter schools) must have identified a minimum average of 100 students in temporary housing in the 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-2021 school years to be eligible for funding.</p> <p>LEAs that have identified a three-year average of fewer than 100 students in temporary housing may apply as a consortium of LEAs whose total identified students in temporary housing is equal to or greater than 100 on average across all three school years.</p>
<p>I am not sure that this is a FAQ question, as it more directly applies to us. In the past our school district has had considerably more students deemed as homeless and qualified as a single LEA. Currently it looks as if we would have to be a consortium. Is there any way that we can apply as a single entity for a prorated amount of the grant, as it appears we have done in the past? We have a substantial afterschool program for our students and would hate to lose that for them.</p>	<p>There is no avenue to prorate the McKinney-Vento RFP 22-25 application. The Grant is intended to support LEAs in their efforts to promote school success for students in temporary housing, and funding is structured as per the LEA's/Consortium's average number of students identified as homeless.</p> <p>You are welcome to apply as part of a Consortium. LEAs that have identified a three-year average of fewer than 100 students in temporary housing may apply as a consortium of LEAs whose total identified students in temporary housing is equal to or greater than 100 on average across all three school years – 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21.</p>
<p>We had a 3-year average of 15 students identified as McKinney-Vento students. Can you please let me know how much money is allocated per student through this grant?</p>	<p>There is no per-pupil amount established within this grant. Single LEAs and consortiums with homeless student counts averaging at least 100 students can expect to receive a total allocation based on the table below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100-500 students identified – up to \$125,000 per year</li> <li>• 501-1,000 students identified – up to \$175,000 per year</li> <li>• 1,001-50,000 students identified – up to \$250,000 per year</li> <li>• &gt;50,000 students identified – up to \$2.5 million per year.</li> </ul>
<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected our total number of McKinney-Vento students, as we experienced a decline in numbers during remote instruction. This was not an</p>	<p>An LEA that has an average of at least 100 homeless students can apply for this grant in two ways. First, the LEA can apply as a single applicant, and the funding will be determined by the funding bands below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100-500 students identified – up to \$125,000 per year</li> <li>• 501-1,000 students identified – up to \$175,000 per year</li> </ul>

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<p>aberration; we can see that other Big 5 urban districts (including Syracuse and Rochester) experienced the same issue. Unfortunately, this means that our overall 3-year average is now much lower than it has been for several years running, and we are not eligible for funding at the level of 1,001+ students, despite the fact that we have reached over 1,000 students annually. Have you considered offering school districts with this issue any supplemental funding, or even allowing us to apply at the level more appropriate to the number of students we typically serve?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1,001-50,000 students identified – up to \$250,000 per year</li><li>• &gt;50,000 students identified – up to \$2.5 million per year.</li></ul> <p>Second, an LEA can become a member of a consortium, thereby increasing the average number of homeless students and the award amount.</p>
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## Allowable Use of Funds

<p>I can apply for up to \$125,000. This is almost triple the amount than what I have managed in previous years. Can I price out my proposed programs and request that the remaining funds be applied towards my regular salary?</p>	<p>Yes, LEAs receiving McKinney-Vento grant funds may use those funds to pay for all or a portion of the salary and benefits of the McKinney-Vento liaison. The liaison must directly manage McKinney-Vento grant activities.</p>
<p>May these sub-grant funds be used to support otherwise un-aidable transportation for McKinney Vento eligible students?</p>	<p>Yes, Districts that receive McKinney-Vento funds can use funds to defray the excess cost of transporting homeless students to and from the school of origin when transportation is not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding, or such funding is not sufficient to meet the needs.</p>
<p>In regions where there is extreme poverty, students tend to miss school musical performances, team sporting events, and extracurricular / club activities. We are seeking to find as many ways as possible to include students experiencing chronic housing instability with reconnecting to their school community.</p>	<p>The United States Department of Education (USDE) requires that LEAs provide transportation for extracurricular activities if the lack of transportation poses a barrier to homeless students participating in those activities. Districts that receive McKinney-Vento funds can use these funds to defray the excess cost of transporting homeless students to and from the school of origin when transportation is not otherwise provided through federal, state, or local funding or is not sufficient. Also, the Grant may provide for tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services, as well as transportation to and from such services; before-school and after-school activities, mentoring, and summer programs with a teacher or other qualified individual, as well as transportation related to these programs and services.</p>
<p>May we enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with collaborating community partners to assist with some of the services for our students? Such as Family Service League or Big Brothers Big sisters or other Community based organizations?</p>	<p>LEAs are allowed to collaborate with local CBOs to assist with grant activities to support McKinney-Vento eligible students. LEAs that enter into MOUs can reference the MOU in the narrative, but an MOU is not required to be submitted with the application.</p> <p>Applicants can describe partnerships with CBOs within the grant in Section A-Local Landscape (500 words) and</p>

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	<p>Section B-the Program Overview. Additionally, CBO partners receiving payment for services should be included on the FS-10 and Budget Narrative.</p>
<p>Starting on <b>page 25</b> you list "Activity Category, Anticipated Outcomes, and Measurement Tool examples". For the activity category "Social and Emotional Learning (e.g. trauma-sensitive strategies) you don't list specific types of activities like you have for the other 3 activity categories. Can you provide examples like you list for the other 3 categories? (There seems to be overlap with the first category "Student Facing Programs" which list social emotional learning lessons).</p>	<p>The term "trauma-sensitive" school describes a school in which all students feel safe, welcomed, and supported and where addressing trauma's impact on learning on a school-wide basis is at the center of its educational mission.</p> <p>Trauma-sensitive strategies include, but are not limited to problem solving, mindfulness, and managing personal stress.</p>
<p>Could you please advise if furniture – specifically beds – would be an allowable expenses under this application. The beds would be provided to families who are doubled up, and who do not have suitable sleeping accommodations for children.</p>	<p>No, furniture such as beds are not an allowable expense. Subgrants are "for the purpose of facilitating the identification, enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youths".</p>

## Consortiums

<p>We are a charter network with (3) network schools or LEAs that are eligible to apply. If we apply as an LEA Consortium (each LEA or charter school has below 100 average over 3 years of students in temporary housing), does one of the LEAs have to be lead applicant/fiscal agent or can the network office (similar to CMO) serve as lead applicant/fiscal agent for all (3) LEAs in consortium?</p>	<p>One of the charter LEAs must be the Lead applicant/fiscal agent. The network office may assist the Lead LEA; however, the Lead LEA submits the application and the related budgets.</p>
<p>Reporting and Cohort Participation-LEAs participating as consortium, does there need to be a representative from <b>each</b> LEA including the Lead Applicant/Fiscal Agent to participate in conference calls (3) and Annual Spring McKinney –Vento Grant Meeting or just the designated Lead Applicant/Fiscal Agent participating in calls and conference?</p>	<p>Yes, there needs to be a representative from each consortium member LEA in all McKinney-Vento calls or meetings.</p>
<p>If you are applying as a LEA consortium consisting of 3 charter schools/LEAs, does EACH participating LEA have to provide an activity under each of the following 4 categories: 1. student-facing activities, 2. student/family support services, 3. capacity-building activities, and 4. social and emotional learning? <b>Example:</b> Can one LEA in the consortium provide activities for (2) categories, another LEA in the consortium provide activities in all (4) categories, a third LEA provide activities in (3)</p>	<p>The activities to be provided, and the LEAs that participate in those activities, should be determined during meetings with consortium members prior to submission of the application. There is no requirement that consortium member LEAs participate in all activities described in the grant.</p>

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<p>categories ---each based on needs of that particular LEA?</p>	
<p>Do all LEAs in a consortium need to offer the same program(s)/activities under the grant or can each LEA in the consortium offer various activities/programs?</p>	<p>The activities to be provided, and the LEAs that participate in those activities, should be determined during meetings with consortium members prior to submission of the application. There is no requirement that consortium member LEAs participate in all activities described in the grant.</p>
<p>For an LEA Consortium do you have to complete a separate “grant program activity template” for each LEA in the consortium or one template that lists all programs for all LEA’s combined?</p>	<p>The Lead applicant for the consortium submits one application that describes the activities proposed for all member LEAs.</p>
<p>I am filling out the cover page for a LEA applicant applying as part of a consortium. The LEA that will be serving as the lead LEA on the current application was part of a consortium on the 2019-2022 McKinney-Vento grant, which received funding, but it was not the lead LEA on that previous grant.</p> <p>I am wondering whether to check “yes” or “no” on the cover page’s question “Are you a current grantee (Cycle 19-22)?” since this LEA was not the lead LEA on the 2019-2022 grant, but is applying as the lead LEA for 2022-2025.</p>	<p>Yes, the LEA participated in the previous grant cycle, so therefore the LEA is considered to be a current grantee.</p>
<p>What obligations do consortium members have beyond the required meetings and collaboration?</p>	<p>Obligations are determined during the initial set-up of the consortium and are determined by the members.</p>
<p>Can we have consortium partners sign individual copies of the consortium agreement form? So each member will sign a copy, which we can merge together for</p>	<p>Yes, electronic signatures on the consortium agreement are allowable.</p>

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submission? This would simplify gathering signatures, since we can email a copy to each partner.	
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