

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Education for Homeless Children Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 1-50 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 45/1-50)

7 Sec. 1-50. Education of Homeless Children and Youth State  
8 Grant Program.

9 (a) It is the purpose and intent of this Section to  
10 establish a State grant program that parallels and  
11 supplements, but operates independently of, the federal grant  
12 program allocating funds for assistance under Subtitle B of  
13 Title VII of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance  
14 Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) and to establish a State grant  
15 program to support school districts throughout this State in  
16 facilitating the enrollment, attendance, and success of  
17 homeless children and youth.

18 (b) Subject to appropriation, the State Board of Education  
19 shall award competitive grants under an Education of Homeless  
20 Children and Youth State Grant Program to applicant school  
21 districts based on the percentage of students experiencing  
22 homelessness in an applicant school district in accordance  
23 with this Section. Services provided by school districts

1 through the use of grant funds may not replace the regular  
2 academic program and must be designed to expand upon or  
3 improve services provided for homeless students as part of the  
4 school's regular academic program.

5 (c) A school district that desires to receive a grant  
6 under this Section shall submit an application to the State  
7 Board of Education at such time, in such manner, and  
8 containing or accompanied by such information as the State  
9 Board of Education may reasonably require.

10 (d) To award grants ~~Grants must be awarded on the basis of~~  
11 ~~the need of the school district~~ for assistance under this  
12 Section, the State Board of Education may consider all of the  
13 following: and the quality of the applications submitted.

14 (1) In determining need under this subsection (d), the  
15 State Board of Education may consider the number of  
16 homeless children and youths enrolled in preschool,  
17 elementary school, and secondary school within the school  
18 district and shall consider the needs of such children and  
19 youths and the ability of the district to meet such needs.  
20 The State Board of Education may also consider the  
21 following:

22 (A) (Blank). ~~The extent to which the proposed use~~  
23 ~~of funds will facilitate the enrollment, retention,~~  
24 ~~and educational success of homeless children and~~  
25 ~~youths.~~

26 (B) (Blank). ~~The extent to which the application~~

1 ~~(i) reflects coordination with other local and State~~  
2 ~~agencies that serve homeless children and youths and~~  
3 ~~(ii) describes how the applicant will meet the~~  
4 ~~requirements of this Act and the federal~~  
5 ~~McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance~~  
6 ~~Improvements Act of 2001.~~

7 (C) The extent to which the applicant exhibits in  
8 the application and in current practice a commitment  
9 to education for all homeless children and youths.

10 (D) Such other criteria as the State Board  
11 determines is appropriate.

12 (2) In determining the quality of applications under  
13 this subsection (d), the State Board of Education shall  
14 consider the following:

15 (A) The applicant's assessment of needs and the  
16 likelihood that the services presented in the  
17 application will meet such needs.

18 (B) The types, intensity, and coordination of the  
19 services to be provided.

20 (C) The involvement of parents or guardians of  
21 homeless children or youths in the education of these  
22 children.

23 (D) The extent to which homeless children and  
24 youths are effectively integrated within the regular  
25 education program.

26 (E) The quality of the applicant's evaluation plan

1 for the services.

2 (F) The extent to which services provided will be  
3 coordinated with other services available to homeless  
4 children and youths and their families.

5 (G) Such other measures as the State Board  
6 considers indicative of high-quality services, such as  
7 the extent to which the school district will provide  
8 case management or related services to unaccompanied  
9 youths.

10 (e) Grants awarded under this Section shall be for terms  
11 not to exceed 3 years, but are subject to annual appropriation  
12 for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth State Grant  
13 Program. ~~School districts shall use funds awarded under this~~  
14 ~~Section only for those activities set forth in Section 723(d)~~  
15 ~~of Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless~~  
16 ~~Assistance Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 11433(d)).~~

17 Activities eligible for assistance under this Section may  
18 include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

19 (1) Rental assistance, which shall include utilities,  
20 security and utility deposits, first and last month's  
21 rent, rental application fees, moving expenses, and any  
22 other eligible expenses to be determined by the State  
23 Board.

24 (2) Transportation assistance, including school bus  
25 transportation, public transportation passes, and gasoline  
26 assistance for a student or family with a vehicle or to a

1 family member with a vehicle who can transport the  
2 student.

3 (3) Emergency shelter, including temporary hotel  
4 stays.

5 (4) Housing stability case management and housing  
6 locator services.

7 (5) Other collaborative housing strategies, including  
8 prevention and strength-based safety and housing  
9 approaches, including, but not limited to, school  
10 supplies, clothing, academic enrichment, tutoring, and  
11 parental involvement programs.

12 (6) Activities set forth in Section 723(d) of Subtitle  
13 B of Title VII of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless  
14 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11433(d)).

15 (f) The State Board of Education may use up to 25% ~~5%~~ of  
16 the funds appropriated for the purposes of this Section for  
17 administrative costs, including the hiring of positions for  
18 the implementation and administration of the grant program,  
19 provided that if no appropriation is made to the State Board of  
20 Education for a given fiscal year for the purposes of the grant  
21 program, then the State Board of Education is not required to  
22 make any expenditures in support of the program during that  
23 fiscal year.

24 (Source: P.A. 96-1229, eff. 1-1-11.)