

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.)