Title I Part C
Education of Migratory Children
2013-2014 Fact Sheet

Goals of Migrant Education

The Migrant Education Program provides formula grants to local education agencies to establish or improve education programs for migrant children. These grants assist local education agencies in improving educational opportunities for migrant children to help them succeed in the regular school program, meet the challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to meet, and graduate from high school.

Purposes of Migrant Education

The general purpose of the Migrant Education Program is to ensure that migrant children fully benefit from the same free public education provided to other children. More specifically, the purposes are to:

- Support high-quality and comprehensive educational programs for migrant children in order to reduce the educational disruption and other problems that result from repeated moves.
- Ensure that migrant children who move among the States are not penalized in any manner by disparities among the States in curriculum, graduation requirement, and State academic content and student academic achievement standards.
- Ensure that migrant children are provided with appropriate educational services (including supportive services) that address their special needs in a coordinated and efficient manner.
- Ensure that migrant children receive full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to meet.
- Design programs to help migrant children overcome educational disruptions, cultural and language barriers, social isolation, various health-related problems, and other factors that inhibit their ability to do well in school, and to prepare them to make a successful transition to postsecondary education or employment.
- Ensure that migrant children benefit from State and local systemic reforms.

What is the Definition of a migratory child?

According to Part C of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act a child is a defined as a migrant if all of the following conditions are met:

- The child is not older than 21 years of age; and
- The child is entitled to a free public education under State law; and
- The child is a migrant agricultural worker or has a parent, spouse, or guardian who is a migrant agricultural worker; and
- The child has moved within the preceding 36 months in order to seek or obtain work, or to accompany or join the migratory agricultural worker who moved within the preceding 36 months in order to seek or obtain qualifying work.

Documentation of Free Meal Eligibility for Migrant Children

A migrant student is automatically eligible for free meals at school. MEP Directors are asked to provide a Kansas Migrant2 Data System (KMDS) list of certified migrant students to the School Nutrition Personnel (SNP) authorized representative within the four weeks prior to the first day of school and whenever new migrant student is certified.

- The list must be signed and dated by the MEP Director.

Title I Part C
Education of Migratory Children
2013-2014 Fact Sheet

- Eligibility for free school meals begins on the date that the SNP authorized representative confirms that a student on the KMDS list is enrolled in the school. Eligibility for free meals is NOT retroactive.

- The MEP Director should NOT provide the student's COE to the SNP due to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations.

- The MEP Director should provide from the KMDS a list of migrant students whose end of eligibility is within four weeks prior to the first day of school. If the expiration of eligibility is within four weeks prior to the first day of school, the student is eligible for free meals at school for the entire school year.