



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Federal Program Coordinators

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: May 9, 2018

RE: The Emergency Impact Aid Program and the Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth Program (**May 15, 2018, 4:30 p.m., Deadline**)

On Friday, April 27, 2018, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) announced the availability of two hurricane and disaster relief programs authorized by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018: the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students (Emergency Impact Aid) program and the Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth program. The USED held a working call with states on Friday, May 4, 2018, to review the process to submit applications.

- **The Emergency Impact Aid program** will provide assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and non-public schools that have enrolled students displaced during the 2017–18 school year by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, or Maria, or by the 2017 California wildfires (“a covered disaster or emergency”).
- **The Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth program** will provide assistance to LEAs to support the needs of homeless students displaced by a covered disaster or emergency.

Under the **Emergency Impact Aid** program, the USED will award grants to eligible state educational agencies (SEAs) on the basis of quarterly counts of displaced students. SEAs will then provide payments to eligible LEAs to assist with the cost of educating students who were displaced by a covered disaster or emergency during the 2017–18 school year and who were enrolled in public schools, including charter schools and non-public schools. LEAs must submit a complete application, including charter and non-public school counts, to the SEA to be eligible.

Funds received under this program must be obligated by **September 30, 2018**, for expenses incurred during the 2017–18 school year. SEAs must return all funds non-obligated by LEAs, by this deadline.

This is a formula grant, and the aid, per student, is as follows:

- \$8,500 (students not having a disability and not English learners);
- \$9,000 (English learner); or
- \$10,000 (student with a disability).

The final award may be pro-rated if total requests exceed the \$2.5 billion appropriation.

Under the **Assistance for Homeless Children and Youth** program, Congress appropriated \$25 million for LEAs to address the needs of homeless students displaced by a covered disaster or emergency. The USED will award funds to SEAs, which will then award subgrants to LEAs on the basis of demonstrated need and the number of homeless children and youth enrolled as a result of displacement by a covered disaster or emergency. LEAs will use the funds awarded under this program to support activities that are allowable under section 723 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Subgrantees must expend funds within 24 months of the award date, but are strongly encouraged to obligate the funds in a timely fashion to address the immediate needs of homeless students displaced by a covered disaster or emergency.

BY STATUTE, THE LEA DEADLINE TO APPLY TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (SCDE) FOR THESE FUNDS IS **MAY 15, 2018**.

THE SCDE WILL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE USED ON BEHALF OF THE LEAS.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

1. LEAs are not required to apply for these funds. Applying for these funds does not guarantee funding.
2. LEAs that receive Impact Aid Basic Support Payments may not include a child already counted in that formula towards displaced students generating Emergency Impact Aid.
3. Your initial application must be received by the SCDE by 4:30 p.m., May 15, 2018, as per Federal requirement. LEAs are encouraged to submit their best available estimates. There will be an opportunity for LEA estimates to be updated after May 15.
4. LEAs must maintain a list of students, along with relevant data, to be available for auditing purposes.
5. LEAs must provide non-public schools within their district boundaries notification of this application. The non-public schools will provide the LEA with the data necessary to complete the non-public portion of the application.

The SCDE realizes the short time period to complete an application. The following steps should provide guidance in this process:

- Contact non-public schools within the district boundaries to provide information regarding the new grants and to request that their student eligibility data be sent to the district.
- Collect and review district student data to determine grant eligibility. Keep documentation of student eligibility at the district office.
- Once all data is collected, go to https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2018_lea_application_for_temporary_emergency_impact_aid_for_displaced_students.
- Enter district information and relevant quarterly student eligibility data pertinent to each grant application section as requested. Note that public school data is to be entered separately from non-public school data.
- Upload the scanned copies of the Certification Signature Page and GEPA Statement as requested at the end of the online application.
- Submit the application by **4:30 p.m., May 15, 2018**.

Please see the attached (application information) document for additional information. For the USED's information on the hurricane and disaster relief programs authorized by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, please go to <https://www.ed.gov/disasterrelief>. For application questions, please contact Roy Stehle at rstehle@ed.sc.gov or Evelyn Towns at etowns@ed.sc.gov.

Attachment