Title I, Part C Executive Summary
Education of Migratory Children

Introduction
The Migrant Education Program (MEP) is authorized by Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The MEP provides formula grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) to establish and improve education programs for migratory children. These grants assist States in improving educational opportunities for migratory children to help them succeed in the regular school program, meet the same State academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to meet, and graduate from high school.

The purposes of the MEP are as follows:

1. To assist States in supporting high-quality and comprehensive educational programs and services during the school year and, as applicable, during summer or intersession periods, that address the unique educational needs of migratory children;
2. To ensure that migratory children who move among the States are not penalized in any manner by disparities among the States in curriculum, graduation requirements, and challenging State academic standards;
3. To ensure that migratory children receive full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet;
4. To help migratory children overcome educational disruption, cultural and language barriers, social isolation, various health-related problems, and other factors that inhibit the ability of such children to succeed in school; and
5. To help migratory children benefit from State and local systemic reforms.

Grant Requirements
As a recipient of Title I, Part C funds, the Iowa Department of Education is required to identify students on a statewide basis who meet the eligibility requirements of the program and one way to fulfill this requirement is to ask each district to designate a migrant liaison.

Service Delivery Strategies
The purposes of the MEP are to assist States in supporting high-quality and comprehensive educational programs and services during the school year and, as applicable, during summer or intersession periods, that address the unique educational needs of migratory children through the following service delivery strategies:

1. Reading
   1.1. Provide supplemental reading instruction
2. Mathematics
   2.1. Provide supplemental math instruction
3. High School Graduation
   3.1. Support timely Algebra completion
   3.2. Involve parents early in the MEP
   3.3. Communicate with sending school in a timely manner
   3.4. Improve access to activities
   3.5. Promote knowledge of graduation requirements and post-secondary options
4. Early Childhood
   4.1. Collaborate with agencies to offer home-based services to preschool migrant students (aged 3-5) not enrolled in school
   4.2. Encourage parents/families to access HQ preschool programs
   4.3. Partner with parents/families to engage children and bolster school readiness expectations
   4.4. Offer early detection and referral for developmental delays
   4.5. Connect parents/families with community agencies based on parent/family home needs and expressed barriers (e.g., nutrition, health, transportation)

5. Out of School Youth (OSY)
   5.1. Timely identification of and services for OSY needs

Allowable Activities

In implementing the comprehensive plan, each State educational agency retains the flexibility to determine the activities to be provided with funds made available under this part, except that such funds first shall be used to meet the identified needs of migratory children that result from their migratory lifestyle, and to permit these children to participate effectively in school.

Funds provided under this part shall be used to address the needs of migratory children that are not addressed by services available from other Federal or non-Federal programs, except that migratory children who are eligible to receive services under Title I may receive those services through funds provided under that part, or through funds under this part that remain after the agency addresses the needs described in the state comprehensive needs assessment.

Next Steps and Additional Guidance

The Department will hold webinars and on-site workshops to assist districts in completing their ESSA applications. For more information on Iowa’s ESSA implementation and training schedule, including archived and upcoming webinars, see the ESSA School Improvement Timeline.

For additional Title I, Part C guidance, see the Department's Every Student Succeeds Act webpage or contact Geri McMahon, Title I Administrative Consultant, at Geri.McMahon@iowa.gov.