Re: American Rescue Plan – Homeless Funds (ARP-Homeless)  
Date: September 28, 2021  
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Authorized Representatives, Fiscal Representatives, and Homeless Liaisons of Public Districts and Community Schools

American Rescue Plan – Homeless Funds (ARP Homeless)

Section 2001(b) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) requires the U.S. Department of Education to reserve $800,000,000 from the $122,774,800,000 provided for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) to support the specific needs of homeless children and youth.

In July 2021, Ohio received a $21,985,056 allocation to help districts and schools meet the specific and urgent needs of homeless children and youth ("ARP Homeless II").

The majority of the ARP Homeless II funds will be awarded as subgrants to LEAs. Award amounts are determined by formula to streamline the grant award process and to get supports to students experiencing homelessness expeditiously. The formula, determined by the U.S. Department of Education, determines an LEA’s allocation based on Title I allocation and homeless student count. The final requirements from the federal government require that in order to access a subgrant on their own, an LEA must have an allocation of $5,000 or more. If an LEA’s allocation would be less than $5,000, to receive an ARP Homeless II subgrant, the LEA must join a consortium of LEAs in which the sum of its members’ allocations meets the $5,000 threshold.

LEAs must use ARP Homeless II funds to identify homeless children and youth, to provide homeless children and youth with wrap-around services to address the challenges of COVID-19, and to enable homeless children and youth to attend school and fully participate in school activities.

ACTION REQUIRED:

- To access these funds, find your LEA’s allocation on the ARP-Homeless II Formula Allocation Sheet.
  - NOTE: If your LEA’s allocation is less than $5,000, you may join a consortium with other LEAs to pool your funds to access the allocation. The sum of consortium member allocations must meet or exceed the $5,000 threshold. You may also choose to opt out of forming a consortium.

- Complete the ARP-Homeless II Allocation Acknowledgement by October 15, 2021. The person completing this acknowledgement must serve as the contact for ARP-Homeless II allocation decisions. Please forward this form to the appropriate person for completion.

After October 15, 2021, funds will be disbursed. Failure to complete the ARP-Homeless II Allocation Acknowledgement by October 15 may result in forfeiture of funds.

If you have any questions, please contact ARPhomeless@education.ohio.gov. Office hours for schools and districts with questions about ARP Homeless funding will be held on Microsoft Teams each week. Join us on Tuesday mornings from 10:00-11:00 from September 28-October 26 and Thursday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 from September 30-October 28 for live support and technical assistance from the state homeless education coordinator.