

Migrant Education Program Rights & Resources

Understanding Your Rights

Students in the Migrant Education Program (MEP) have specific rights designed to ensure they receive equitable access to education and support services, addressing their unique needs due to frequent moves and the challenges faced by migratory families. The rights of MEP students include:

1. **Access to Free Public Education:** MEP students have the right to attend public schools in their local area without any discrimination or barriers due to their migratory status. This includes immediate enrollment even if they lack normally required documents like immunization records or proof of residency.
2. **Equal Access to Educational Opportunities:** MEP students have the right to participate in the same educational programs and extracurricular activities as other students. Schools must provide accommodations to ensure that these students can fully engage in all aspects of the school experience.
3. **Supplemental Educational Services:** MEP students are entitled to receive additional support services tailored to address their specific educational needs. These may include tutoring, summer school programs, after-school programs, language support for English learners, and academic counseling.
4. **Support for Overcoming Barriers Due to Mobility:** Schools are required to assist MEP students in overcoming challenges related to frequent moves, such as credit accrual for high school students, access to special education services, and continuity in learning despite changes in school placement.
5. **Access to Health and Social Services:** MEP students have the right to access health services, such as medical, dental, and mental health services, often provided through partnerships between schools and local health organizations. The program may also assist families in obtaining social services like housing, nutrition assistance, and transportation.
6. **Protection Against Discrimination:** MEP students are protected under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin. They cannot be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
7. **Access to English Language Development Programs:** For MEP students who are English learners, schools must provide access to programs that help them develop proficiency in English while also mastering academic content.
8. **Continuation of Services:** MEP students who move to a different school district retain the right to receive services for the duration of the school year, and sometimes beyond, even if they no longer meet the eligibility criteria due to age or changes in migratory status.
9. **Records Transfer and Maintenance:** MEP students have the right to have their educational and health records transferred promptly between schools and districts to ensure continuity of education and support services.



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Resources

Educational Support

- **School Liaisons:** Each school district has a designated Migrant Education Program liaison to help you navigate the educational system and access resources.
- **Tutoring and Academic Support:** Many schools offer tutoring and other academic support services to help your child succeed.
- **Early Childhood Development Programs**
 - Head Start: Families enrolled in MEP automatically qualify for head start, which provides early childhood education and care services at no cost. [CLICK HERE](#)
- **College Education/Post High School Planning**
 - College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) [CLICK HERE](#)
 - TRIO Programs [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Federal Student Aid: Some MEP students are eligible for a Pell Grant, Work Study Programs, and Federal Student Loans. [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Internet Support**
 - Cox Connect: Student Internet service for \$9.99/month [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Lifeline Support: Internet connection and phone service at reduced rates for eligible families [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Xfinity Internet: Internet for \$10/month [CLICK HERE](#)
 - PC's for People: Internet for \$15/month [CLICK HERE](#)
 - IDVA Internet Subsidy Program- This application opens in October, and it provides a \$30/month reimbursement to eligible families. Link to the 24-25 form is here: <https://forms.gle/HyEWWpQLrkCNhGJg7>
- **School Supplies**
 - [Empowering Parents Grant](#)- Provides funds to parents to help support school supplies

Health and Nutrition

- **Free School Meals:** Your child is automatically eligible for free school meals.
- **Therapies/Medial Assistance:** Students enrolled in MEP may be eligible for the following programs are entitled to the following
 - Medicaid Application [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Behavioral Health Services [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Food Banks and Pantries:** Access to food resources to ensure your family has enough to eat.
 - Department of Health & Welfare: Click here for [SNAP](#) and [WIC](#) information
 - Temporary Assistance for Families (TAFI) [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Idaho Foodbank Food Assistance Locator [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Feed America [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) [CLICK HERE](#)

How to Get Help



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VIRTUAL ACADEMY

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If you need immediate assistance or have questions about your rights contact your school district's Migrant Education Program Liaison.