

Migrant Education Program (MEP)



MEP History

1960 “Harvest of Shame”

www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7087479n

1965 President Lyndon Johnson
“Great Society Initiative”

1966 Migrant Education Program included in the
Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Program Purpose

The purpose of the MEP in Georgia (and the United States) is to ensure that migrant children fully benefit from the same free public education provided to all children and that the unmet education-related needs resulting from their migrant lifestyle are met.

Migrant Education Program

Unique Feature

- Before a migrant child may be served or counted for funding in the program, his or her eligibility must be documented on a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). These COEs are completed through face-to-face interviews performed by trained and qualified LEA and state staff, and they are certified by the state.



Federal Definition of “migratory child”

1. **Age:** The child is younger than 22; AND
2. **Educational level:** The child has not graduated from high school or does not hold a high school equivalency certificate (GED). If the child is too young to attend school–sponsored educational programs, is old enough to benefit from an organized instructional program; AND
3. **Move:** The child and worker move for economic necessity across School District lines to seek or obtain, or accompany a parent or guardian, to seek or obtain qualifying work; AND
4. **The time of the move:** The move occurred in the preceding 36 months; AND
5. **The purpose of the move:** was to seek or obtain qualifying work or any kind of work and obtain qualifying work soon after the move. Qualifying work is work in agriculture, agricultural related, fishing, or fishing related, that is either seasonal or temporary work. **The work must be performed only for wages or personal subsistence.**

Identification and Recruitment

Funding that the state receives each year for operating its migrant education program is wholly dependent upon the **accuracy and completeness** of the identification and recruitment process, as is the assurance that the state is only delivering services to children who are eligible to receive them.

Implication

- **Only trained, authorized personnel are permitted to identify and recruit migrant students.**



Special Educational Needs of Migrant Children and Youth

- Gaps in learning resulting from repeated moves
- Credit accrual
- Continuity of education from state-to-state and district-to-district.
- Language barriers
- Emergency health and medical issues impacting academic performance

Priority for Service

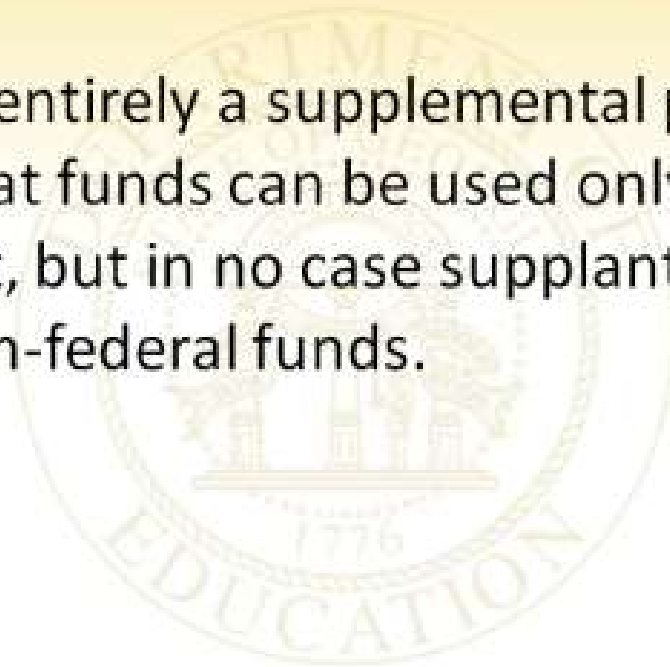
- Program requirement
 - Identify student needs
 - Identify those failing or risk of failing
 - Identify those with repeated moves as well as failing
 - Create supplemental support based on the needs of the individuals
- Provide services to those migrant students first, and then to other migrant students



Teachers and principals should KNOW which migrant students are **PFS** and how best to meet their needs

Supplemental Program

The MEP is entirely a supplemental program, meaning that funds can be used only to supplement, but in no case supplant, State, local or other non-federal funds.



Types of MEP Supplemental Services

- Classroom support – inclusion and pull-out
- After school, intersession, and summer programs
- Tutoring, including home tutoring
- English language acquisition assistance
- College and career preparation
- Health Services (when they impact academic achievement)

Migrant Education Program (MEP) in Colquitt County

- Approximately **650 students**,
3 years old through 12th grade – in school
- Approximately **130 Out-of-School Youth (OSY)**,
16 to 22 years old – working in fields
- NOT all Hispanic students are migrant
- NOT all ESOL students are migrant
- Most migrant students are Hispanic
- Some migrant students are English Learners (ELs)

Migrant Education Program (MEP) in Colquitt County

- **Largest migrant student population in Georgia**
- MEP Staff:
 - 5 elementary tutors
 - 1 middle tutor
 - 1 junior high tutor
 - 1 high school tutor
 - 3 recruiters
 - 2 pre-school teachers
(3 yr. old pre-school classes at Funston and Odom)
 - 2 pre-school paraprofessionals
 - 1 part-time coordinator

Participant Documentation

Please sign the attendance form to document:

- 1. You know the purpose of the migrant education program.**
- 2. You know who are migrant students in your school or classroom.**
- 3. You know which of your migrant students are Priority for Service (PFS)**

Thank you for your support of
our migrant students !

