LOUISIANA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Migrant Education Program (MEP) was established in 1966 under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. The Program is a federally funded program, reauthorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. MEP is Part C of Title I and is designed to support high quality and comprehensive educational programs for migrant children.

According to ESSA the purpose of Migrant Education is to:

Support 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;

- **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;**
- **Ensure that migratory children receive full and appropriate opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards that all children are expected to meet;**
- **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;**
- **Help migratory children benefit from State and local systemic reforms.**

Eligibility Requirements for Participation

A child is considered "migrant" under the following circumstances: (1) younger than 22 years of age; (2) entitled to a free public education under State law; (3) made a qualifying move in the preceding 36 months as a migratory worker, or with a migratory worker, or to join or precede a migratory worker. A migratory worker is an individual who, in the preceding 36 months, made a qualifying move and, soon after the move, engaged in new temporary or seasonal employment or personal subsistence in agriculture or fishing. A "qualifying" move can range from moving across school district boundaries or from one state to another for the purpose of finding qualifying work. Eligibility is established through an interview conducted by a Migrant Education Recruiter. The law states that migrant education services are a priority for those students whose education has been interrupted during the current school year and who are failing, or are at most risk of failing to meet state content and performance standards.

Migrant Education Program Services:

- **Access to student information through the Louisiana record transfer system**
- **Continuing communication between home and school**
- **Technical assistance to teachers at school**
- **Basic school supplies**
- **Coordination of migrant family services with other agencies and programs**
- **Short-term tutoring (if not provided by the school district)**
- **Toll-free number - National Migrant Education Hotline – 1-800-234-8848**
- **Migrant Education Program Contact: Laurie Stewart – 225-369-0560**
  Email: laurie.stewart@louisiana-mep.org