

## Reading Is Fundamental (RIF)

In 2004-2005, RIF served 30 district sites and a total of 5,237 students.



16,413 books were distributed through the Alaska Migrant Education RIF Program.

### **ALL (Alaska Lending Libraries)**

This is a brand new project this year that is administered directly through RIF in Washington, D.C. We now have 20 sites around the state that have received a lending library that contains more than 100 high-quality books for children ages 4-9. It is made possible through a federal grant targeted specifically to Alaska RIF programs. These libraries were put into communities across the state who met the criteria and applied to receive a library. One of the main criterion was that there was very limited access to other library resources. If you are interested in participation in the future and would like to find out about the requirements and rules for applying, please contact Sarah Howard at RIF in Washington, DC at [showard@rif.org](mailto:showard@rif.org) or 1-877-RIF-READ.

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## Migrant Education Program

The primary goal of the Migrant Education Program is to ensure that all migrant students reach challenging academic standards **AND** graduate with a high school diploma (or complete a GED) that prepares them for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.

# Alaska's Migrant Education Program

The Alaska Migrant Education Program provides educational or educationally related services to migrant children to enable them to succeed in school. Services may be instructional services, such as tutoring before and after school, or support services, such as educational supplies. There are a variety of ways that services may be delivered to students. Before/after school programs, in-class programs, and summer programs are just a few examples of service delivery plans. Priority for services is given to students who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet the State's challenging academic standards and whose education has been interrupted during the regular school year.

## 2004-2005 Child Count

For the period 9/1/04—8/31/05

### Category 1:

12 Month count of Migrant Children eligible for funding purposes:

11,057

### Category 2:

Summer Count of Migrant Children Eligible for Funding Purposes:

2,457

42 Districts are currently receiving Migrant Education (Title IC) Funds.

## What makes a child eligible for the Migrant Program?

A child **may** be eligible for the program if he or she:

- ◆ *Is younger than 22 and has not graduated or received a GED, **and***
- ◆ *Is a migrant agricultural worker or fisher or has a parent who is a migrant agricultural worker or fisher, **and***
- ◆ *Performs a qualifying work activity or has a parent who performs a qualifying work activity that is a principal means of livelihood, **and***
- ◆ *Has moved within the preceding 36 months to obtain or seek seasonal work in agriculture or fishing, **and***
- ◆ *Has moved from one school district to another or has moved 20 miles or more within a school district of 15,000 square miles or more.*

## Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Alaska's Migrant Education Program will focus on a statewide Comprehensive Needs Assessment during the 2005-2006 school year.

NCLB requires each state to conduct a current Comprehensive Needs Assessment to identify the unique needs of migrant students in Alaska and to propose an action plan with suggested strategies and interventions to address the needs of migrant students. The Needs Assessment will guide the state's service delivery plan, establish statewide priorities for local programs, and will provide the basis for the allocation of funds. The outcome of the Needs Assessment will be a report to the Office of Migrant Education in the U.S. Department of Education.

A steering committee will guide the completion of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment as required by NCLB. Members of the steering committee have been selected to represent a cross-section of stakeholders of migrant programs: program directors, parents, EED Staff, teachers and paraprofessionals. The steering committee met three times during the 2004-2005 school year and will meet twice during the 2005-2006 school year to finalize its work.

## **Title I, Part C, Education of Migratory Children**

### **Purpose**

The Migrant Education Program provides formula grants to districts to establish or improve education programs for migrant children. These grants assist districts in improving educational opportunities for migrant children to help them succeed in the regular school program, meet the challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to meet, and graduate from high school.

### **Services**

Services are those educational or educationally related activities that 1) directly benefit a migrant child; 2) address a need of a migrant child consistent with the state's comprehensive needs assessment and service delivery plan; 3) are grounded in scientifically based research or, in the case of support services, are a generally accepted practice; and 4) are designed to enable the program to meet its measurable outcomes and contribute to the achievement of the state's performance targets.

### **Schoolwide Programs and Migrant Children**

A schoolwide program funds a comprehensive school plan to upgrade all the instruction in a high-poverty school without distinguishing between "eligible" and "ineligible" children. Funds are used to improve the educational program of all students, although some students may still receive additional help.

If migrant children are to be part of the schoolwide program, the school should involve migrant parents in planning the program to ensure that the school effectively identifies and addresses the children's special educational needs. Schools are required to first use migrant funds, in consultation with parents, to meet the special educational needs of migrant children before they may combine migrant funds in a schoolwide program. After the school meets these needs, it may combine migrant funds with other funds in a schoolwide program.

### **Targeted Assistance Program and Migrant Children**

A targeted assistance program offers supplemental services to identified children who are low-achieving or at risk of low-achievement. Title IC funds should be directed at services for children who have been identified as eligible by the state's migrant education program. In addition, statute provides that migrant children are eligible to participate in the Title I, Part A program on the same basis as other eligible children. Students who have not been identified as eligible migrant students by the state's migrant education program must receive services through funding sources other than Title IC.

### **Comprehensive Needs Assessment**

During the 2005-2006 school year, Alaska's migrant education program is focusing on a statewide Comprehensive Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment will guide the state's service delivery plan, establish statewide priorities for local programs, and will provide the basis for the allocation of funds.

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