



## McKinney-Vento Updates – January 2024

### Highly Mobile Youth Professionals Peer-to-Peer Conversations

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am – 12:30pm and participate in a little peer-to-peer self-care to kick off the holiday season!

We were lucky to have Dr. Amy Lopez from Anschutz Medical Center with us to present and facilitate resiliency practices for professionals working with youth. If you did not attend, please consider setting aside time to learn more about making intentional space for yourself this winter break. The slides including links to resources can be found [HERE](#).

The January 9<sup>th</sup> Peer-to-Peer Conversation is cancelled to allow more time and space to return from the holidays and address the increased needs typical this time of year for the students and families we serve. **We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am.** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

### The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) and the Colorado Academic Accelerator Program (CO-AAP) grant applications are now available!

Visit the [21<sup>st</sup> CCLC webpage](#) and the [CO-AAP webpage](#) to access application materials and find out more about each grant program. **Applications are due February 15, 2024.**

Both grant programs seek to establish or expand community learning centers that will accelerate student learning by providing academic support and enrichment as well as family engagement activities in Out-of-School Time programs, which are regularly attended by students and their families when school is not in session. While 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs are more comprehensive, CO-AAP programs will be focused on increasing student outcomes in STEM, particularly math and science.

#### Resources

- Need to know the differences and similarities of CO-AAP and 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC? Check out this informative [Crosswalk](#).
- Both grant applications will be online using CDE's new grant management system, GAINS. Potential applicants can access training and office hours by visiting the [GAINS Training webpage](#).

### Parents Encouraging Parents Conference

The Exceptional Student Services Unit at CDE plans conferences throughout the year that are family-centered and designed to offer support, information, and education to parents and professionals who are Colorado residents.

The January conference in the Denver Metro area is already full; however, the conference on May 3-4 in Grand Junction is open for registration. Please share the flyers ([Spanish/English](#)) with parents and families you work with. More information is available on the [CDE Website](#).

### Highly Mobile Youth Learning Cohort

Please consider learning more with statewide colleagues on strategies and approaches to better identify and serve highly mobile youth by engaging in the Highly Mobile Youth Learning Cohort. The fifth session of this year long cohort is being held Wednesday, **February 7, 2024, from 9:30 am – 12pm.** Please come prepared to discuss and reflect on ways to increase access and opportunities for highly mobile youth to succeed in school and beyond, leveraging Family, School, /and Community Partnership. [Register Here](#).

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## The 2024-25 FAFSA Will Be Out this Month!

The 2024-2025 FAFSA will open by December 31, 2023. This new FAFSA will have many changes, including the important [provisions for homeless and foster youth](#).

Join a Webinar on the FAFSA

Title: The 2024-2025 FAFSA: Helping Homeless and Foster Youth

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Time: 3:30 - 4:45 PM Eastern

### Presenters:

- Jillian Sitjar, Director of Higher Education Partnerships, [SchoolHouse Connection](#)
- Barbara Duffield, Executive Director, [SchoolHouse Connection](#)
- Jennifer Pokempner, Senior Policy Director, [Youth Law Center](#)
- Jasmine Miller, Staff Attorney, [Youth Law Center](#)
- Debbie Raucher, Director of Education, [John Burton Advocates for Youth](#)