



What is the Migrant Education Program?

The Federal Title I Part C Migrant Education Program (MEP) was created in 1966 as part of a national effort to address the special educational needs of farm worker children who move with their families to harvest the fruits and vegetables that help feed our nation. The Migrant Education Program ensures that all migratory children who move among the states are not penalized in any manner by disparities among states in curriculum, graduation requirements or state academic content and student academic achievement standards. The Texas MEP's goal is to provide all migrant children with the opportunity to reach challenging academic standards and graduate with a high school diploma (or complete a GED) in order to prepare them for responsible citizenship, further learning and productive employment.

Who is a migrant child?

Any child under the age of 22, who does not have a U.S. issued diploma or GED and has moved:

- Within the last 36 months
- Across school district or state lines
- With a parent/guardian or on his/her own
- To obtain qualify migratory work

Migratory work refers to temporary or seasonal employment in fishing work or agricultural work, including the production or initial processing of



crops, livestock, dairy products and fish, as well as the cultivation and harvesting of trees.

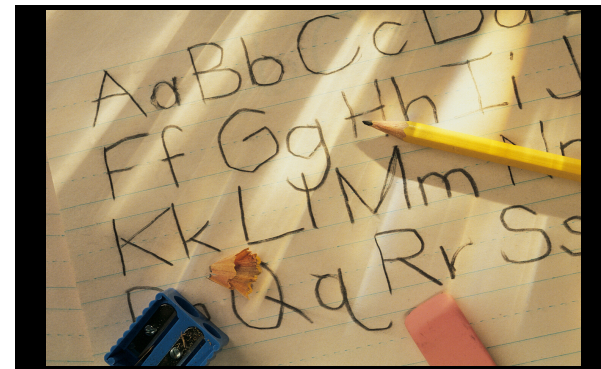
Qualified MEP staff are available statewide to determine family eligibility. Migrant families who think they may qualify should call the number that appears on the back of this brochure. Program staff will arrange for an interview with the parent or migrant worker to determine eligibility.

Do migrant children have needs that are different from other children?

Yes, children of migrant farm workers often travel with their parents in search of seasonal or temporary migrant work. The dislocation, nature of work, travel demands and low pay often lead children to experience challenges in school and with their personal health. The Texas Migrant Education Program's function is to provide the necessary support to meet the needs of migrant children and address all areas of concern.

The Office of Migrant Education at the U.S. Department of Education has identified seven areas of particular concern related to the academic success of migrant children. They are:

1. English Language Acquisition
2. Health
3. Instructional Time
4. Access to Services
5. School Engagement
6. Educational Continuity
7. Educational Support in the Home



What services are available for children of migrant workers?

Any child under the age of 22, who does not have a U.S. issued diploma or GED and has moved:

- Tutoring Classes
- Clothing/School Supplies
- Vision, Hearing and Dental Screenings
- Assistance Earning High School Credits
- Free School Lunch Program
- Summer Programs

