

Migrant Education Program Identification & Recruitment

Making Eligibility Determinations

Activity

- Read the case studies
- Determine if the STAMP of Eligibility is present
- What questions would you follow up with?

“STAMP of Eligibility” Checklist



Eligibility Scenarios: Basic Child Eligibility Factors

- School Completion:** The child is eligible for a free public education under state law (e.g., the child is not a high school graduate or does not hold a high school equivalency certificate.)
- Time of Move:** The move occurred within the past 36 months.
- Age:** The child is younger than 22
- Move:** The child and the worker “moved:
 - The child “moved’ with, to join, to precede, or as the worker, AND
 - The move was from one school district to another, AND
 - The move was a change from one residence to another residence, AND
 - The move was due to economic necessity, AND
 - The move occurred within the past 36 months.
- Purpose of the Move:**
 - One purpose** of the worker’s move was to seek or obtain qualifying work:
 - The worker moved to obtain qualifying work and obtained it, OR
 - The worker moved to obtain any work and obtained qualifying work soon after the move, OR
 - The worker moved for qualifying work specifically, but did not obtain the work, AND
 - The worker has a prior history of moves to obtain qualifying work, OR
 - There is other credible evidence that the worker actively sought qualifying work soon after the move.
- Qualifying Work:**
 - The employment is seasonal or temporary, AND
 - The work is agricultural or fishing.

This past May, a family of five moved into your district so dad can begin working in the onion harvest. The family consists of: dad, mom, and their three children. The children's names are Manny, Moe, and Jack. Their ages are 16, 19, and 23. Are the children eligible for the Migrant Education Program in NM?

Two years ago, Ruben Gomez and his sons, Andy, 17, and Rudy, 15, arrived in Yuma, AZ. The family has a long history of moves for seasonal agricultural work. They moved from California to obtain seasonal employment picking lettuce but could not find work due to a drought that had limited the field work available. Mr. Gomez, instead, found temporary work at a local tire shop. He enrolled Andy and Rudy in school shortly after they arrived. One year later, Ruben and his sons were hired by a farmer to fertilize cotton.

On March 20th of this year, Don Butler, his wife and two children, ages 9 and 13, moved from Texas to Michigan, because they heard there were more employment opportunities and because Mrs. Butler's sister lives in Michigan. Ten days after arriving in Michigan, Mr. Butler found qualifying work. The employer said that he only needed Mr. Butler for five months.

On April 1st of this year, Jeff and Marie Bates, both 20 years old, and their daughter Donna, 3 years old, moved to Nebraska from New Mexico, looking for any work. Both Jeff and Marie dropped out of high school in the 11th grade and need to work to support their family. When they arrived in Nebraska, Jeff found part-time work as a janitor at a lettuce packing plant. Marie found work cleaning houses.

Does anyone in the family qualify for MEP services?

A worker moved from Florida to Georgia, with his wife and four school-aged children, to harvest onions. He was especially excited to move to Vidalia because his older brother and his family live there as well. He knew that his children were looking forward to spending time with their cousins. Once the harvest is over, both families will travel together to Mexico and spend the holidays together. The worker began work the day after the family arrived, about a month ago.

A family of five (mother, father, and their children ages 20, 17, and 16) resides in Washington state. In April 2013, the parents needed to return to Mexico, at which time they left their three children in the care of their eldest child, Jose. He took his siblings to Idaho. Although Jose never finished high school, he works at a cattle ranch to support himself and his siblings while they attend school in Idaho.

On May 5th of this year, Gilberto and Lola Martinez left Belle Glade, Florida and headed to North Carolina where they heard there was seasonal employment harvesting tomatoes. Lola was pregnant with the family's third child. On June 1st, the father traveled to Belle Glade to bring their daughter Lolita (age 12) and their son Octavio (age 16) to San Luis.

In March of this year, the Babenko family moved from Carnation, WA, to work at a dairy farm near Silverton, OR. The dairy farm owner said that the work was expected to last five months. The parents will be feeding and milking cows, cleaning stalls and other duties. The family typically moves throughout the Northwest to do this type of work. The Babenkos take their three children, Dmitry, 18, Denis, 14, and Alexandra, 10, with them when they move. The parents enrolled Denis and Alexandra in school. Dmitry worked with his parents on the farm.