National Coalition on Migrant Education

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FACT SHEET ON THE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM (HEP) AND COLLEGE ASSISTANCE MIGRANT PROGRAM (CAMP)

WHAT ARE THE HEP AND CAMP PROGRAMS?

HEP and CAMP are federally funded programs designed to meet the educational and occupational needs of Migrant Student Farmworker (MSFW) dropouts. The programs were created to enable these farmworker youth to gain job mobility through successful completion of secondary and postsecondary education.

WHO ARE THESE MSFW DROPOUTS?

They are young migrant farmworkers between the ages of 17 and 24 who have failed to complete their high school education as a result of the burdens imposed on them by their migrancy. Because of poor health and living conditions, the mobile and seasonal character of farmwork, and the educational neglect experienced by migrant children, these youth are generally more likely to fail than to succeed in their regular educational experience.

HOW DO THE HEP AND CAMP PROGRAMS WORK?

Both the HEP and CAMP programs are conducted pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The programs are administered and coordinated through the Office of Migrant Education in the Department of Education.

HEP - (HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM)

Through extensive recruitment programs, HEP identifies and recruits potential participants. Participants are relocated in the stimulating educational environment of a host university, away from the impediments to studying commonly found in and around their homes. All students are involved in an intense, accelerated, individualized academic program leading to the completion of the General Education Development (GED) examinations. Prior to termination of the program, students are assisted in achieving educational and economic mobility through placement in post secondary education, job training programs, or employment.

The latest statistical profile on HEP achievements is taken from the January 1977 HEP/CAMP Transition Report, prepared under the authority of the Department of Labor. As of 1977:

Ninety two percent of HEP participants were successfully placed in employment, training, or post secondary education;

- . Sixty percent of HEP students successfully graduated with a GED;
- Although performance standards required that each HEP participant shall achieve a minimum of 105 graduate points, HEP participants had an average of 132.8 graduate points.

CAMP - (COLLEGE ASSISTANCE MIGRANT PROGRAM)

Students are recruited from migrant environments and placed in a university setting. The student is immersed immediately into the educational environment upon arrival for orientation. After extensive training in study skills essential for college survival, the new freshman migrant students are registered in the university. They are closely counseled by program staff as to academics, financial aid, health services and support services. The student is surrounded by a series of support systems geared to academic survival.

The most current statistical profile on CAMP is taken from the January 1977 HEP/CAMP Transition Report, prepared under the authority of the Department of Labor:

- Eighty three percent of the migrant students in the CAMP program complete their first year of college successfully;
- CAMP students achieve a B- (2.52) college grade point average which matches or surpasses most college freshmen;
- Ninety eight percent of the students who have graduated from the CAMP program are either continuing their education or are gainfully employed;
- No CAMP student who has successfully completed the program has been known to have returned to migrant labor as the chief source of income.

WHAT IS THE FUNDING PICTURE FOR THESE PROGRAMS?

The funding for Fiscal Year 1982 was approximately \$5.8 million for the HEP program and \$1.16 million for the CAMP program. President Reagan, in his FY 1983 budget, proposed that both of these programs be entirely eliminated.