

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law that protects the educational rights of students in temporary housing. Under this law, your children are entitled to important rights and services.

McKinney –Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as any student “who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence”.

- Know Your Child’s Educational Rights
 - Immediate Enrollment: Your child has the right to immediate enrollment in school, even if you not have any paperwork for them, including birth certificate, immunization record, guardianship papers, and proof of address.
 - Choice of Schools: Your child has the right to stay enrolled in the school they most recently attended, or to enroll in the school where you were last permanently housed, or to enroll in the school in the area where you are temporarily living as long as it is feasible and in the best interest of the child.
 - Transportation: Your child has the right for transportation to and from the school they last attended or were last permanently housed and if it is feasible. Our district does not provide transportation to any student who lives a mile and a half or less from the school he or she is enrolled in. Courtesy busing is available in some situations.
 - Free meals: Your child is automatically eligible for free meals (breakfast and lunch) at their school.
 - Participate fully in educational programs: Your child has the right to fully participate in any program and extracurricular activity provided by the school and/or school district.
 - Right to Dispute: You have the right to receive a written explanation of any decision related to school selection or enrollment made by the local school district or the State Educational Agency involved and you have the right to appeal such decisions.

- Questions to Ask:
 - Who is the McKinney-Vento Liaison at my child’s school? How can I contact him or her?
 - What transportation is available for my child? Who can help me set it up?
 - Who can help set up free meals for my child?
 - What if my child needs special education services?
 - What if my child needs school supplies? Who can help me?

- Do the Following When You Do Move:
 - Contact the school and notify them of your new address.
 - Contact the school and provide any information you think will assist teachers in helping your child adjust to new circumstances.
 - Contact the school or McKinney-Vento Liaison for help in enrolling your child in a new school or arranging for your child to continue in his or her former school.
 - Ask for assistance with school fees, school supplies, and/or clothing, if needed.

School District Contact: Dr. Kimberly Eimers 208-748-3050	State Coordinator: Suzanne Peck 208-332-6904	Contact your child’s school and ask for the McKinney Vento Liaison	National Center for Homeless Education: 1-800-308-8145
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