



The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 is a federal law that provides funding for shelters and other resources to assist those experiencing homelessness. Today it is mostly referenced to guarantee rights to homeless children and youth, as defined by Title VII, Section B of the McKinney-Vento Act.

McKinney-Vento eligible students are guaranteed to be immediately enrolled, and participate fully in school activities including:

- Financial support through the payment of fees, giving of supplies, and registration for extra-curricular activities.
- Assistance with college preparation including counseling services, and the waiving of fees for all testing like SAT, ACT and AP testing and application fees; assistance completing FAFSA.
- Expedited assessment for additional services like Special Education and English Language Learning classes.
- Tutoring and before/after school care.
- Free meals (breakfast and lunch) and enrollment in free meal programs.
- Connection to community resources including medical and dental needs provided by district Homeless Liaison.
- Unaccompanied youth have access to showers, laundry and storage facilities at the school.

Notes for Special Populations

- Early Childhood- Preschoolers experiencing homelessness should have equal access to public preschool opportunities and programs administered by the state. They are automatically eligible for Title 1 preschools. Preschoolers may remain at their school of origin and enrolled in previous programming even if the family relocates.
- Immigrants: Homeless immigrant students are able to enroll in school without the required Health and Human Services paperwork verifying eligibility, age, and residency requirements.

Who do I contact for help? Your Housing Stability Coach has the contact information for the homeless liaison for the school district where students are enrolled. They can help you connect with them and ensure all eligible children receive these services and benefits.

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Call 2-1-1 if you are experiencing homelessness