

## McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process

### Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Petition to Appeal

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Youth:

Because the district seeks to place your child(ren) in a school other than the school of origin or the school you requested, we are providing this information packet to inform you of your right to appeal our decision.

Included, you will find the following:

1. Written contact information for the school district's Homeless Liaison and State Coordinator;
2. Receipt of dispute resolution packet;
3. A detachable form that you can complete and turn into the school or Homeless Liaison to initiate the dispute process;
4. A written step-by-step description of how to dispute the school district's decision, along with information;
5. Written notice of the right to enroll immediately in the school where enrollment was sought pending resolution of the dispute; and
6. Written timelines for resolving district- and state-level appeals.

If at any time, you have questions regarding the dispute resolution process, you can contact the district Homeless Liaison or the State Homeless Education Coordinator, and they will assist you with the process.

School District Homeless Liaison  
Annette Stewart  
South Kitsap School District  
2689 SE Hoover Ave  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
(360) 874-7054

WA State Homeless Education Coordinator  
Melinda Dyer  
Office/Superintendent of Public Instruction  
PO Box 47200  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 725-6050

McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process  
Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Petition to Appeal

**Receipt of Dispute Resolution Information**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent, guardian, or youth attempting to enroll my child(ren) or myself in the following school(s):

Child's Name:

School(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have received the explanation of my child's placement. This explanation included:

1. Contact information for the district's Homeless Liaison and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's Homeless Education Coordinator;
2. A copy of the dispute resolution process;
3. Paperwork to complete if I wish to dispute the district's decision;
4. Directions on how to complete the dispute resolution paperwork; and
5. A summary of the McKinney-Vento Act.

I understand that the school district will ensure that my child(ren) will attend and fully participate in the school where enrollment is sought while the dispute process is carried out.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian/Youth Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
School District Personnel Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Upon receipt of the dispute resolution packet, please sign this form and return it to the school where you are attempting to enroll or to the district's Homeless Liaison.

McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process  
Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Petition to Appeal

**Dispute Resolution Form**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have received the explanation of the district's placement decision concerning my children/myself, (name): \_\_\_\_\_.

I disagree with the district's placement decision, and I am appealing that decision for the following reasons:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the district will ensure that my child/I will have the opportunity to attend and participate at the school where enrollment is sought while the dispute is being carried out.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian/Youth Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
School District Personnel Signature Date

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**School District Use Only:**

**Level I Appeal** \_\_\_\_\_

**Level II Appeal** \_\_\_\_\_

**Level III Appeal** \_\_\_\_\_

## McKenny-Vento Dispute Resolution Process

## Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Petition to Appeal

**Parents/Youth's Guide to the McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution**

If a parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth wishes to appeal a school district's decision regarding school placement.

1. The parent/unaccompanied youth must submit a request for dispute resolution form to the district Liaison or the school where enrollment is sought within **fifteen (15) business days** of receiving the district's notification that they plan to enroll the student in a school other than the one requested by the parent, guardian, or youth.
2. Within **five (5) business days** of their receipt of the complaint, the Liaison must decide on the complaint and inform the parent or unaccompanied youth of their decision in writing.

If the parent or youth disagrees with the decision made at Level I and wishes to move the dispute resolution process forward to Level II, the parent or unaccompanied youth shall notify the district's Homeless Liaison of their intent to proceed to Level II within **ten (10) days** of their receipt of notification of the Level I decision. If the parent or unaccompanied youth wishes to proceed to Level II, the district's Homeless Liaison will provide an appeals package that includes:

1. A copy of the parent or youth's complaint which was filed at the district Homeless Liaison at Level I
2. The decision rendered at Level I by the Homeless Liaison
3. Any additional information from the parent, guardian, unaccompanied youth, or Liaison.

If the dispute remains unresolved after a Level I appeal, the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth may appeal the decision to the local school district's Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. The appeals package from the level I dispute will be used to facilitate the following:

1. The Superintendent or Superintendents designee (not the Homeless Liaison), will arrange for a personal conference with the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth. This will occur within **five (5) business days** of the meeting.
2. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee will provide a decision, in writing, to the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth with supporting evidence and reasons within **five (5) business days** of the meeting.

If the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth disagrees with the decision at Level II and wishes to move the dispute process to Level III, the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth must notify the district's Homeless Liaison of their intent to proceed to Level III within **ten (10) days** of receipt of notification of the Level II decision. If the dispute remains unresolved:

1. The district Superintendent must forward all written documentation and related paperwork to the OSPI Homeless Education Coordinator or designee, for review within **five (5) business days** of receiving notification that the parent, guardian, or youth would like to proceed to Level III.

2. The entire dispute package including all documentation and related paperwork is to be submitted to OSPI in one complete package via hard copy mail delivery. Documents submitted separately from the dispute package may not be reviewed. It is the responsibility of the district to ensure the dispute packages are complete and ready for review.
3. The OSPI Homeless Education coordinator, along with appropriate OSPI personnel, will make a final decision within **fifteen (15) business days** of receipt of the complaint.
4. The final decision will be forwarded to the school district's Homeless Liaison for distribution to the parent and local Superintendent.
5. The decision made by OSPI will be the final resolution for placement of a homeless child or youth in the district.