

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK REGARDING SERVICES UNDER MCKINNEY-VENTO?

- Who is the local homeless education liaison? How can I contact him or her?
- What transportation is available for my child to stay in the same school (the school of origin)?
- If my child changes schools, who can help us transfer records quickly?
- How can my child receive free meals at school?
- How can my child receive free school supplies, if needed?
- Who can help if my child needs special education services? How quickly can these services be set up?
- What academic help is available for my child, such as Title I programs or after-school tutoring?
- What programs can help develop my child's talents and address his/her unique needs?
- Are there sports, music, or other activities available for my child?
- How can my child go on class field trips or participate in other school activities if I can't pay for them?
- Is there a preschool program for my younger children?

NCHE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

NCHE encourages parents to be active participants in supporting their child(ren)'s education and provides resources to help parents do so.

Visit NCHE's parent resources webpage at http://www.serve.org/nche/ibt/parent_res.php.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

If you believe your child(ren) may be eligible for the support provided by the McKinney-Vento Act, contact the school district's Local Liaison or your State McKinney-Vento Coordinator.

Local Liaison:

Jennifer Beckham
219-391-4100 x 12340
State Coordinator:

Gina Woodward
317-232-9189

If you need further assistance, call the National Center for Homeless Education at its toll-free Helpline:

1-800-308-2145



SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE LOST THEIR HOMES TO FORECLOSURE



If your family owned its home and lost it to foreclosure, or if your family was renting a home and the landlord lost it to foreclosure, and you are now living in a temporary situation, your preschool-aged and school-aged children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the McKinney-Vento Act.



National Center for Homeless Education

Supporting the Education of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT: THE BASICS

If you lost your housing due to foreclosure and now live doubled-up with family or friends; in a shelter, motel, vehicle, camping ground, or temporary trailer; on the street; or in another type of temporary or inadequate housing, your child(ren) may be able to receive help through a federal law called the McKinney-Vento Act.



UNDER THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT, ELIGIBLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there.
- Continue attending their school of origin or be enrolled immediately in the local school where they are living, depending on their best interest; the school of origin is the school the student attended before losing housing or the school the student last attended; the student can attend the school of origin even if he/she now lives outside that district's lines.

- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin at no cost to the parent or student.
- Enroll in the new local school immediately, even if missing records and documents normally required for enrollment, such as a birth certificate, proof of residence, previous school records, or immunization/medical records.
- Enroll, attend classes, and participate fully in all school activities while the school gathers records.
- Have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students, including transportation and supplemental educational services.
- Receive free school meals.



WHOM CAN I CONTACT TO HELP WITH MY CHILD'S EDUCATION?

- Every school district has a **local homeless education liaison**. This person can help you decide which school would be best for your child and communicate with

the school. The local liaison also can help your child get school supplies, supplemental services, and free school meals; set up transportation to and from the school of origin; and help you find community supports.

- When you enroll your child in a new school, ask to meet his/her **teacher(s)**. Be sure to contact the teacher(s) every so often to find out how your child is doing. Get to know at least one of your child's teachers well enough to be comfortable asking questions about schoolwork and sharing information that will help your child learn.
- The **school counselor** can help your child deal with changes and challenges. Share with this person any information about how your child is acting at home or things he or she is dealing with that might affect his/her schoolwork.
- Other good people to know are the **school principal**, **attendance officer**, **bus driver**, **school social worker**, and **school nurse**.
- **All school and school district staff** can help make sure your child gets all the services he or she needs. You are an important partner in your child's schooling and should work as a team with the school and school district.