

Local Educational Agency Homeless Liaison Duties

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act (McKinney-Vento Act) lists 10 specific local educational agency (the District) liaison (LEA liaison) duties. The McKinney-Vento Act establishes that the LEA liaison must ensure that those duties are fulfilled. Therefore, the LEA liaison can assign specific duties to a staff person, or persons, at each school site to identify students experiencing homelessness (school site liaison), as long as the LEA liaison ensures the duties are completed. Those duties are:

- 1. Homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
- 2. Homeless children and youths are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, schools of that LEA;
- 3. Homeless families and homeless children and youths have access to and receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act Title 42 United States Code Section (U.S.C.) 9831 (42 U.S.C. Section 9831) et seq. early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), and other preschool programs administered by the LEA:
- 4. Homeless families and homeless children and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;
- 5. The parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
- 6. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths;

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- 7. Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with paragraph (3)(E);
- 8. The parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, as described in paragraph (1)(J)(iii), and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected under paragraph (3)(A);
- 9. School personnel providing services under this part receive professional development and other support; and
- 10. Unaccompanied youths—(I) are enrolled in school; (II) have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youth, including through implementation of the procedures under paragraph (1)(F)(ii) (regarding the award of partial credits); and (III) are informed of their status as independent students under section 1087vv of Title 20 and that the youths may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) described in section 1090 of Title 20.