

# McKinney-Vento Act

## Experiencing Homelessness?

### Who is Considered Homeless?

The McKinney-Vento Act (Section 725) defines homeless children and youth as individuals who:

- Lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- Live in an abandoned building, parked car, or other facility unfit for human habitation
- Are abandoned in hospitals
- Are placed by the state in an emergency shelter
- Share housing with another family due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- Live in a motel or hotel
- Live in an emergency or transitional shelter
- Live in a trailer park or campsite with their family
- Are migratory children that qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above

### The School Will:

- Assist in school enrollment
- Facilitate school of origin requests
- Assistance with transportation
- Help to ensure that students in transition receive appropriate educational services
- Provide school supplies and backpacks
- Provide hygiene supplies
- Provide parents with appropriate referral services
- Connect families with educational resources
- Facilitate resolution of school enrollment disputes
- Provide the opportunity for parents to be fully involved in their child's academic experience

### Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

- Enroll your children in school promptly
- Send your children to school everyday
- Request needed transportation
- Request tutoring to make up for lost school time
- Meet your children's teachers regularly
- Give your input on what you think is best for your child
- Notify the school when moving
- Get current school records including: immunizations, check-out grades, Individual Education Plan (IEP's)
- Contact the new district's homeless liaison for help in enrolling in school

### You May:

- Participate fully in all school activities and programs for which you are eligible
- Continue to attend the school in which you were last enrolled even if you have moved away from that school's attendance zone or district
- Receive transportation from your current residence back to your school of origin
- Qualify automatically for child nutrition programs (free and reduced-price lunches and other district food programs)
- Contact the District Liaison to resolve any disputes that arise during the enrollment process

**For questions about enrolling in school or for assistance with school enrollment contact:**

#### Your Local School District Liaison

Steve Wood  
Director, Pupil Services  
Westside Union School District  
41914 50<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Quartz Hill, CA 93536  
661-722-0716  
s.wood@westside.k12.ca.us

#### Your County Liaison for the Homeless

Jennifer Kottke  
Coordinator II  
Los Angeles County Office of Ed.  
12830 Columbia Way, ECW 376  
Downey, CA 90242  
562-922-6247  
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#### Your State Liaison for the Homeless

Leanne Wheeler  
State Coordinator  
California Department of Education  
1430 N Street, Suite 6208  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
866-856-8214