

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PLAN FOR STUDENTS IN ALTERNATIVE LIVING ENVIRONMENTS

The Lyon County School District believes all children should be afforded the same high educational opportunities regardless of race, religion, ability, nationality, sex, or circumstance. The District recognizes that not all students are in ideal living environments, and that those who are either without a home or living in inadequate environments are in unique situations that may require additional assistance for the student(s) to succeed.

Definition of Terms

For the purposes of this policy, “homeless” is defined as:

- an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, adequate (without electricity and/or plumbing) nighttime residence;
- an individual who has primary nighttime residence in a supervised, publicly or privately-operated shelter for temporary accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
- an individual who sleeps in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (e.g. cars, parks, motels);
- children living with a parent in a domestic violence shelter;
- an individual who is out of necessity, living with relatives or friends due to lack of housing;
- runaway children (under 18 years of age) and children/youth who have been abandoned or forced out of their home by parents or other caretakers, or such youth (between 18-20 years of age) who may still be eligible for education services who:
 - temporarily reside in shelters awaiting assistance from social services agencies,
 - live alone on the street or move from place to place between family members, friends, or acquaintances;
 - children of migrant families who lack adequate housing.

Homeless Student Procedures

The Title I Coordinator will be the District Liaison and each Principal or their designee will be the homeless advocate known as School Site Liaisons for their school site.

The Lyon County Schools will comply with the following procedures for enrolling homeless children aka “Children in Transition” (CIT):

Identification Process

Identification of a child in transition is determined based on information that is listed on the Student Residency Questionnaire (SRQ) that is completed by the parent/guardian at the time of registration or at the beginning of each school year. The school registrar will forward all SRQ forms to the District Liaison within 72 hours of receipt for review and eligibility determination. Notification of eligibility or ineligibility is given to the school site liaison, parent/guardian, and food services within 72 hours of determination. The Parent/Guardian has a right to Due Process if they disagree with an ineligible determination.

Enrollment Process

A child in transition will be enrolled immediately regardless if they have the required enrollment documentation.

By definition, homeless individuals lack a permanent address. A permanent address is not required for school enrollment. If no address exist (i.e. living in an automobile), the school registrar will attempt to secure a name, phone number, and address for emergency notification.

Birth certificates, immunization documentation, and previous school records may not be readily available from a child in transition that is new to the district. The previous school may fax a copy of the birth certificate and/or current immunization records. The district liaison will assist families if necessary with securing the required enrollment documentation and referrals for community resource support if appropriate.

If a CIT student moves to a residence outside the boundaries of his/her school of origin, the student has the right to stay enrolled at the school they currently attend if it is determined to be in the students' best interest by the collaborative team. The Collaborative Team is a group of individuals that work directly with the CIT student who come together to meet and discuss all contributing factors as to whether or not it would be in the students best interest to keep them at their school of origin. Transportation or mileage reimbursement will be provided by Lyon County School District if determined it is in the best interest to keep the CIT student at his/her school of origin.

Services

LCSD follows all McKinney-Vento services. All eligible CIT students have the right to:

- free school meals,
- transportation to and from school of origin
- receive full or partial credit from previous school

Individualized Academic Plans (IAPs) For Homeless

In order to take into account the unique circumstances and education background of each student defined as homeless, the District directs each elementary, intermediate/middle, and high school site to develop an Individualized Academic Plan (IAP) for students enrolled at that school who are in, or during the course of the school year become identified under the homeless program.

This IAP will be developed in consultation with the appropriate staff members and geared towards the student's academic and social/behavioral success. Once developed, the academic plan will be used as a guideline by the District to determine what assistance the student will need in order to meet the goals of the plan.

IAPs must be reviewed by site personnel on a quarterly basis in order to determine if plan goals are being met make adjustments as needed; and take into account the student's academic advancement or non-advancement within the District.

SB 147, passed in the 80th session of the Nevada State Legislature, requires that school districts award and accept full or partial credit for coursework that is satisfactorily completed by a homeless or unaccompanied pupil without satisfying any attendance requirement for the course or requirement for hours for classroom instruction. Pupils who receive partial credits must also be allowed to appropriately combine those credits, including – without limitation – for the purposes of the total number of credits required for graduation from high school or the minimum number of units of credit required in a core academic subject pursuant to NRS 389.018.

The following is evidence used to determine whether coursework has been satisfactorily completed and the amount of credit to award and accept for the coursework:

- Demonstration of competency by a pupil;
- Performance by a pupil on an examination;
- Successful completion of a program of independent study, or as part of such a program, by the pupil;
- Full or partial credit for coursework completed by a pupil at an accredited public or private school located within or outside of this State that is sought to be transferred;
- Full or partial credit of coursework completed by a pupil at a summer school conducted by an accredited public or private school or institution of higher learning located within or outside of this State that is sought to be transferred;
- Completion by a pupil of a correspondence or distance education course provided by a high school which is nationally accredited or by an entity which appears on the list published by the Department pursuant to NRS 388.834;
- Completion of an apprenticeship program by a pupil;
- Completion of a program by a pupil at a trade or vocational school which is accredited;
- Work experience of a pupil;
- Community service performed by a pupil; and
- Any other evidence or method which is determined to be appropriate by the board of trustees of a school district or sponsor of a charter school, as applicable, and approved by the department.

Schools are encouraged to consider the full spectrum of evidence of coursework completion to remove barriers to credit accrual and on-time graduation for homeless and unaccompanied youth. A pupil that receives partial credit for coursework or a course of study must be allowed to appropriately combine the partial credit, including, without limitation, for the purposes of the total number of credits required for graduation from high school or the minimum number of units of credit required in a core academic subject pursuant to NRS 389.018.

Graduation Requirements

The Lyon County School District must award the appropriate high school diploma to a homeless or unaccompanied pupil who:

- Transfers to a school operated by the district while the pupil is enrolled in grade 11 or 12; and
- Satisfies the requirements prescribed by the State Board to receive a high school diploma, regardless of whether the pupil satisfies any requirement imposed by the school district.

Additionally, if a homeless or unaccompanied pupil who lives in foster care who transfers to a public school while enrolled in grades 11 or 12 is not able to receive a high school diploma within five years from the date on which the pupil enrolled in ninth grade, the district, the pupil, and the pupil's parent or legal guardian, if applicable shall mutually agree on a modified course of study for the pupil that will assist them in satisfying the requirements for a standard diploma, adjusted diploma, alternative diploma or an adult standard diploma as quickly as possible.

**LYON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD POLICY**

JH

Ref: NRS 424.013, 424.014, 424.015, 424.018, SB370 (76th Legislative Session)

Policy #JH
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Legal References: Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorized_2015, P.L. 107-110, Title I Sections 11432(g), 11434a, 20 USC 6315c, 20 USC 6311(h)