Unaccompanied Youth Eligibility Flowchart

HOMELESS:
SHOULD be enrolled as UHY under MV

Is the student residing with someone who is not a parent or court-appointed legal guardian?

NOT HOMELESS:
SHOULD NOT be enrolled as UHY under MV

Why is the student with this person?

- Family was evicted; cannot find housing all together; parent placed child temporarily with a friend or relative
- Parent transferred for work; plan for student care & support in place so student can stay to finish school
- Student left home due to danger or extreme conflict; student was put out of home by parent for a similar reason
- Student moved in with a friend, relative, or coach to play sports, be in the band, attend a magnet school, etc.
- The family was homeless prior to the parent's incarceration or the caregiver arrangement is not fixed, regular, and adequate
- Student did not change residences, caregiver moved in; parent made arrangements for the student prior to incarceration
- The family lost housing; the parent placed the child temporarily with a friend or relative
- Parent's work schedule was problematic, so the child stays with relatives for school

NEED MORE INFORMATION

- Parent is incarcerated and a relative or friend agreed to care for the child
- Parent enrolled the student and then left the area

NOTE: The information contained in this flowchart is intended to serve as a general guide. All McKinney-Vento eligibility determinations should be made on a case-by-case basis weighing the individual circumstances of each student. To be eligible for McKinney-Vento services as an unaccompanied homeless student, the student must meet the criteria of both homeless and unaccompanied.

Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility of Unaccompanied Youth

1. **Is the student residing with someone who is not his/her parent or court appointed guardian?**

   If yes, continue to the next question. If no, the student may be homeless, but is not unaccompanied.

2. **Does the student meet the definition of homeless under McKinney-Vento?**

   These are sample questions that can be asked to determine McKinney-Vento eligibility. Reminder: *homeless* is defined as "lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."

   - Why is the student living with someone who is not his/her parent/guardian?
   - Is the student placed in this residence as a temporary plan for housing because the entire family became homeless?
   - Did the student leave home because of severe family conflict?
   - How long can the student continue living where he or she is?
   - Does the student have his or her own space/bedroom in the residence?
   - Does the student have adequate privacy?
   - Can the student come and go as needed?
   - Where would the student live if not able to live there?
   - What are the expectations of the student while staying there?

A student who is considered homeless (lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence) and unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) can be registered as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

A student who is not homeless, even though residing with a person other than the parent or court-appointed guardian, does not qualify as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Based on a flowchart provided by Virginia Beach Public Schools