

Rights of Homeless Students MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT

McKinney-Vento Act

Ensures educational rights and protection for youth and children experiencing homelessness. (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.)

Who is considered homeless?

Children and youth who lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence including children who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, campgrounds or similar settings due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above;
- Unaccompanied youth, including any youth not in physical custody of a parent or guardian, such as runaways, or youth denied housing by their families

Rights of Homeless Students

- Free and appropriate education
- Attend and enroll immediately even if unable to provide records required for enrollment
- Enroll or remain in school without a permanent address
- Stay in school of origin (to the extent possible)
- Go to school where child last attended or school where temporarily living
- Transportation (to the extent feasible upon parent request)
- Written explanation and appeal if educational placement is denied.

Parents should...

- Tell the school that their child is moving and give them the new address.
- Ask for a copy of their child's records, including immunizations.
- Enroll the child in school as soon as possible.
- Inform the new school of current living situation.

Resources and Services from Arizona 2-1-1

- Food, Clothing, and Help Paying Bills
- Housing/Shelter
- Health and Dental
- Employment Services
- Mental and Health Support groups
- Individual and Family Services (and more!)



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