

## ASK ABOUT THESE SERVICES AT THE SCHOOL SITE

- ♦Free nutrition program
- ♦Transportation assistance for children to remain at their school of origin
- ♦Special education programs, especially if the child has received services in the past
- ♦Tutoring programs
- ♦Counseling
- ♦Programs for Limited English Learners
- ♦Gifted or talented programs
- ♦Pre-school programs
- ♦Before and after school programs
- ♦School uniform or clothing programs

## WITH THESE RIGHTS YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO

- ♦Enroll your child in school promptly and have him/her attend regularly
- ♦Request needed transportation services
- ♦Ask for tutoring/counseling to make up for any lost school time
- ♦Meet with your child's teacher regularly to ensure that your child is receiving appropriate academic support
- ♦Be fully involved in your child's academic experience
- ♦Notify the school when moving
- ♦Get current school records, including immunizations when checking your child out
- ♦Get Special Education documents - IEP, SST, 504 plan, test results, and other school-related documents
- ♦Contact the local school district's Homeless Education Program liaison for help with enrollment

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# MVP

## You Can Enroll in School



**McKinney-Vento Program  
Most Valuable Pupils  
Imperial County Office of Education  
Student Well-Being Department**

## WHO IS CONSIDERED HOMELESS?

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as youth between the ages of 2- 18 years old, who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and may:

- ♦live in a hotel or motel;
- ♦live in a shelter or transitional housing;
- ♦live in an abandoned building, parked car, or other facility not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- ♦share housing with another family due to loss of housing, stemming from financial hardship;
- ♦live in a trailer park or campsite due to the lack of adequate living accommodations;
- ♦are abandoned at a hospital;
- ♦are placed by the state in an emergency shelter;
- ♦are migratory, runaway or abandoned children that qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

## WHICH SCHOOL CAN A HOMELESS STUDENT ATTEND?

- ♦The school of origin
- ♦The school in the attendance area where the student is temporarily living

**A permanent address is not needed in order for your child to attend or enroll in school.**



## HOW WILL MY CHILD GET TO SCHOOL?

If you are temporarily living outside of the attendance area of your school of origin, you have the right to transportation services to and from school.

If you are temporarily living within the attendance area of the school of attendance, you are entitled to the same transportation services as students who are permanently housed.

## WHAT ARE MY CHILD'S RIGHTS?

Homeless students have the right to participate in all federal, state, or local programs and extracurricular activities for which they are eligible.

## IS THERE ANY REASON TO DELAY THE ENROLLMENT OF A HOMELESS CHILD?

No! Lack of school or immunization records CANNOT prevent a homeless student from enrolling in school. It is the responsibility of the new school to request health and academic records from the previous school in a timely manner and to refer parents to free health clinics for any required immunizations. Homeless students do not need to wait until academic or health records arrive to attend the new school.

**The law requires IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT.**

## WHAT IF THE SCHOOL DISPUTES THE ENROLLMENT? DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO STAY OUT OF SCHOOL UNTIL A DECISION IS MADE?

No! If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the student must be immediately admitted/re-admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought until the dispute is resolved.

## WHAT IF I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE DECISION?

School officials must provide the parent with a written explanation of the school's decision and Dispute Resolution Process, which explains the appeal process.

## HOW LONG DOES THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS TAKE?

A parent should be notified within 5 school days of the decision regarding their child's enrollment .

## CAN UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH ENROLL IN SCHOOL WITHOUT A PARENT?

Yes! The Homeless Education Program Coordinator must assist with enrollment and placement decisions, consider the youth's wishes, and provide notice to the youth of the right to appeal.