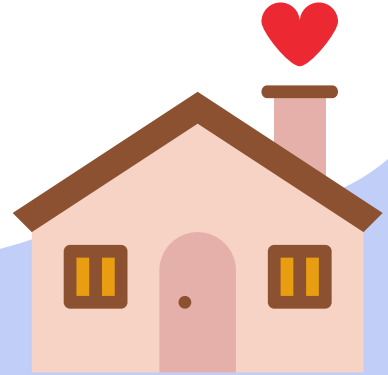


Understanding the McKinney-Vento Act

A GUIDE FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- ☐ Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- ☐ Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- ☐ Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- ☐ Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of accommodations
- ☐ Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc.
- ☐ Abandoned in hospitals
- ☐ Living in a public or private place not designed for sleeping
- ☐ Migratory children living in the above situations

IDENTIFICATION AND ENROLLMENT:

- Immediate enrollment in school, even without required documents
- Designated liaisons responsible for identifying eligible students and providing support

PROTECTIONS AND SERVICES:

- Transportation provided to the school of origin if requested
- Right to attend school of origin or local attendance area school
- Full participation in all school activities and programs
- Schools cannot segregate or stigmatize homeless students

POSSIBLE SIGNS:

- Academic signs: Enrollment at multiple schools, poor attendance, incomplete homework
- Physical signs: Poor hygiene, unmet medical needs, fatigue
- Behavioral and social signs: Extreme shyness, difficulty forming relationships, lack of participation
- Emotional signs: Withdrawn behavior, poor self-esteem, aggression
- Other indicators: Lack of basic school supplies, refusal to disclose address

HOW TO RESPOND:

- Approach with empathy and understanding
- Build trust and assure safety
- Initiate a private conversation with discretion
- Offer support and connect with school liaison – **Ms. Makris at PPS 631-244-6505**
- Address immediate needs and maintain confidentiality
- Follow up and monitor regularly

