Mascoma Valley Regional Schools

McKinney-Vento Dispute Process

A parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth may dispute the decision of the Mascoma School Liaison to find a student ineligible for McKinney-Vento homeless status.

During any dispute process: A student must be allowed to attend the school whose district is challenging the student's right to attend until the Commissioner of Education or his designee makes a final decision regarding the dispute.
The challenging school must continue to provide transportation and other school services until the dispute is resolved.

Dispute process steps:

1. The dispute resolution process begins at the time the Mascoma District challenges the right of either a parent or guardian to enroll a child or to continue a child's enrollment in school, or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth's right to enroll or continue enrollment in school. A written copy of the Mascoma McKinney-Vento Dispute Process will be provided to the youth, parent, or guardian within 24 hours of the initial disagreement.
2. The liaison will provide parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth with written notice in clear, easy to understand language detailing the dispute resolution process. This will be translated upon request by an ELE parent/ELE liaison or unaccompanied youth. The form lists the option of obtaining independent counsel or seeking help for the NH ECHY office.
3. The M-V liaison will notify the NH Department of Education of the challenge on the day of the challenge and provide copies of all notices given to parent, guardian, unaccompanied youth.
4. The district must provide the parent a notice of the right to appeal and the form-Mascoma McKinney-Vento Dispute Process Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Appeal
5. The parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth must complete the form and return it to the liaison within 5 business days (the district will provide help to the individual completing the form, if needed)
6. The school district has two working days to review the initial decision. At that time a determination will be made as to whether to pursue the challenge or not.
7. The final decision of the school district will be in writing by the Superintendent stating all the factual information upon which it is based and any legal basis in support.
8. If the district decision is different from the initial position, a copy of this decision must be sent to the NH Department of Education, the Mascoma liaison, and parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth on that same day.
9. The Commissioner has two working days from the receipt of the appeal to issue a decision. The commissioner's decision is final.

Mascoma McKinney-Vento Dispute Process

This form is to be completed when the Mascoma liaison denies the school enrollment choice of a parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth who is seeking to enroll in school under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act and is required by the Mascoma School District's McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process.

Date: ____/____/_____

Person Completing Form:_____ Title:_____

School:_____ District:_____

In compliance with Section 722(g)(3)(E) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001, this written notice of denial of school enrollment is provided to:

Parent/Guardian:_____
Student(s):_____

After reviewing the request to enroll the above student(s), the school enrollment request is denied for the following reasons:

_____
_____
_____

You have the right to appeal this decision by contacting the district's Homeless Education Liaison who will assist you in the appeal process.

Liaison's Name: ***Lyndsay Porreca*** Phone number: ***(603)632-4308 ext. 2052***

In addition:

• Until the Commissioner of Education of the NH Department of Education, or the Commissioner's designee, makes a final decision regarding your appeal, the above student will be allowed to attend the school of choice and the school district will provide transportation and other school services.

• You may provide either written or verbal reasons for your appeal of this decision. An appeal form is attached.

• You may contact the NH Department of Education Office for the Education of Homeless Students:

Christina Dotson, *McKinney-Vento Coordinator for the NH Dept. of Education*
Phone: (603) 271-3840
Email: Christina.L.Dotson@doe.nh.gov

• You may seek the assistance of advocates or attorneys.
• A copy of this written notice of denial of school enrollment is being forward to:

Office for the EHCY
NH Department of Education
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

Mascoma McKinney-Vento Dispute Process
Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Youth Appeal

This appeal form must be completed if you are a parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth who disagrees with the decision of the Mascoma School District on your (or your child's) McKinney-Vento status. The District Homeless Education Liaison (Lyndsay Porreca) will assist you with this form, and may take the information verbally if you wish.

Date: ____/____/_____

Parent/Guardian:_____

Student(s):_____

Phone #: _____

I wish to appeal the enrollment decision made by:_____ for enrollment in _____(school name) in the Mascoma School District.

I have been provided with the following:

- a copy of the Mascoma McKinney-Vento Dispute Process
- contact information for the district Homeless Education Liaison (Lyndsay Porreca)
- the NH EHCY information is printed below.

I disagree with the enrollment decision for the following reason(s):

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

- I know that I may contact the NH Office for the Education of Homeless Students:

  Christina Dotson, *McKinney-Vento Coordinator for the NH Dept. of Education*
  Phone: (603) 271-3840
  Email: Christina.L.Dotson@doe.nh.gov
- I know that I may seek the assistance of advocates or attorneys.
- I want a copy of this written notice of appeal of school enrollment to be forwarded to:

Office for the EHCY
NH Department of Education
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/_____