ASK ABOUT THESE SERVICES AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL:

- Contact with the homeless liaison
- Free nutrition programs
- Transportation assistance to remain at the school of origin
- Special education programs, especially if the child has received services in the past
- Tutoring programs
- Programs to help children learn English
- Gifted or talented programs
- Magnet programs
- Preschool programs
- Before and after-school programs
- Clothing, backpack, school supplies, or other educational resources
- Referrals to housing services

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Enroll your children in school promptly
- Send your children to school every day and on-time
- Request needed transportation
- Request tutoring/counseling to make up for lost school time
- Meet your child's teachers regularly
- Give your input on what you think is best for your child
- Notify the school when moving
- Get current school records including immunizations, check-out grades, IEPs
- Contact the new district's homeless liaison for help in enrolling in school.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

- Provides up-to-date technical assistance to local educational and community agencies
- Collaborates with local district and charter homeless liaisons
- Provides staff and parents with appropriate referral services
- Connects districts and families with educational resources
- Resolves homeless disputes that are not settled at the local school district
- Provides parent education workshops
- Provides supportive services to those students in LACOE programs that meet the federal definition of homeless
- Maintains a current roster of the school district and charter school's homeless liaisons in Los Angeles County



We are here to help!

For assistance contact:
Homeless Education Program
12830 Columbia Way, Downey, California 90242
Jennifer Kottke
(562) 922-6614 or homelessed@lacoe.edu

The mission of the Division of Student Support Services is to support the physical and mental health, safety, and well-being of all students in Los Angeles County, to facilitate learning and success in school and in the community.

Los Angeles County Office of Education

Homeless Youth Education Program

Making a difference in the lives of children and youth experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County



Educational Rights of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

WHO IS CONSIDERED HOMELESS?

The McKinney-Vento Act (Section 725) defines children and youth experiencing homelessness as individuals who:

- lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;
- live in an abandoned building, parked car, or other facility not meant for human habitation;
- are abandoned in hospitals;
- are placed by the state in an emergency shelter;
- share housing with another family due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
- live in a motel or hotel;
- live in emergency or transitional shelters;
- live in a trailer park or campsite with their family; or
- are migratory children or unaccompanied youth that qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

DO YOU NEED A PERMANENT ADDRESS TO ATTEND SCHOOL?

No! A permanent address is not needed in order for your children to enroll and attend school.

WHICH SCHOOL CAN A STUDENT EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ATTEND?

There is a choice between school of origin or school of residence:

- The school of origin is the school the student last attended when permanently housed, the most recent school attended, or any school that the student attended within the past 15 months; or
- The school in the attendance area where the student is temporarily living.

HOW WILL MY CHILD GET TO SCHOOL?

If you are temporarily living outside the attendance area of the school of origin, then you have a right to transportation services to and from the school of origin. If you are temporarily living within the attendance area of the school of attendance, then you are entitled to the same transportation services as permanently housed students.

WHAT LIMITATIONS CAN THE SCHOOL PLACE ON MY CHILD?

Students experiencing homelessness have the right to participate in and have access to the same programs and services that are available to other students, if they are eligible.

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

No! Lack of school records or immunizations CANNOT prevent a homeless student from enrolling in the new 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.

Students experiencing homelessness do not need to wait until academic or health records arrive to attend the new school. The law requires **IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT** which means enrolled and attending school.

Homeless Liaison Contact Information

NAME: Candy Delgado

Phone Number: (818) 691-8170

EMAIL: cdelgado@myvaughncharter.com

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/readmitted** to the school in which enrollment is sought until the dispute is resolved.

WHAT IF I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE RESOLUTION?

The parent must be given a written explanation of the school's decision on the dispute, including the right to appeal. The appeal begins at the district level, and may proceed on to the county homeless liaison if the parent is not satisfied with the response from the district or charter school. If the dispute is not resolved at the county level, the parent may appeal to the state homeless liaison.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROCESS TAKE?

The law requires every school district to have a prompt dispute resolution process. That process, the steps and timeline, must be clearly spelled out and available to parents.

CAN AN UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH ENROLL IN SCHOOL WITHOUT A PARENT?

Yes! Every school district has a homeless liaison whose duties include assisting in the enrollment and educational placement process of unaccompanied homeless youth, considering the youth's wishes and providing notice to the youth of his/her right to appeal.

All children have a right to a free appropriate public education even if they do not have a permanent address, immunizations, or school records.