

A Parent's Guide to the Rights of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Indiana Education for Homeless Children & Youth (INEHCY)

Your Child's Educational Rights

- Attend school, no matter where you live or how long you've lived there.
- Stay in their current school (school of origin) if it's in their best interest.
- Enroll immediately, even without school, medical, or other records.
- Receive the same education and services as other students, including special education, migrant education, vocational training, and preschool programs.
- Not be separated or segregated from other students because of homelessness.
- Receive a written explanation if assigned to a school other than the one you choose.
- Appeal school placement decisions and keep your child in their chosen school during the appeal process.

If You Move, You Should:

- Contact the local homeless liaison for help with enrollment or school stability.
- Inform the school of any information that can help support your child.
- Notify the school when you plan to move and request a transfer of records.
- Ask for copies of important school documents (transcripts, grade level, medical/special needs information, test scores).
- Allow your child to say goodbye to friends and teachers when possible.

How You Can Support Your Child

- Make sure your child attends school every day.
- Read together daily — even a few minutes helps.

- Make education a family priority.
- Encourage good study habits.
- Meet regularly with teachers and school staff.

About the McKinney-Vento Program

- The McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Program ensures that all children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal access to a free, appropriate public education, including preschool.
- Schools must remove barriers to enrollment, attendance, and academic success.

Need Help or More Information?

- Indiana Department of Education
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program
- Office of Student Services
- 115 W. Washington Street, South Tower, Suite 600
- Indianapolis, IN 46204
- Office: (317) 233-3372 | Cell/Text: (317) 460-1340
- Email: mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov
- Website: www.doe.in.gov (Keyword: Homeless Program)
- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Helpful Contacts

- CHIP – Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention
www.chipindy.org | (317) 630-0853
- National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)
nche.ed.gov | (800) 308-2145

- National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty
www.nlchp.org | (202) 638-2535
- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY)
www.naehcy.org | (866) 862-2562
- U.S. Department of Education
www.ed.gov | (800) USA-LEARN (872-5327)

Local Homeless Liaison Contact

- Tina Noe
- Director of Educational Programs
- Danville Community School Corporation
- Phone: (317) 745-2212
- Email: tnoe@danville.k12.in.us