Crawfordsville
ATHENIANS

MCKINNEY-VENTO

HOMELESS CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM

District Plan





District & State Contacts

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What is the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act?

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act affords homeless children and youth equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as other children and youths. Homeless children and youths must have access to the educational and related services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging state academic standards such as immediate enrollment, transportation / busing, automatic enrollment in the free/reduced lunch program, automatic enrollment in Title 1 services, all school-based services for which they qualify and participation in all activities offered to students and families.

Who is Eligible for Services According to the McKinney-Vento Act?

The term “homeless children and youth” refers to individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. Under the law, a child may qualify as homeless if he or she is:

- Living in an emergency shelter, domestic violence shelter, or transitional housing;
- Living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground, were abandoned in a hospital, or are awaiting foster care placement;
- Living in a car, park, public place, bus or train station, abandoned building, or other structure not meant for housing;
- Doubled-up with relatives or friends due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;

- NOT living with a parent or legal guardian, is an unaccompanied youth living in a situation that meets one of the four definitions listed above.

What are Homeless Students Rights?

The McKinney Vento Act provides certain rights for homeless students. They include waiving certain requirements such as proof of residency when students are enrolling and allowing categorical eligibility for certain services, such as free textbooks. The Act also states:

- Homeless students may attend their school of origin or the school where they are temporarily residing;
- Homeless students must be provided a written statement of their rights when they enroll and at least two times per year;
- Homeless students may enroll without school, medical, or similar records;
- Homeless students have a right to transportation to school;
- Students must be provided a statement explaining why they are denied any service or enrollment;
- Students must receive services, such as transportation, while disputes are being settled;
- Students are automatically eligible for Title I services;
- School districts must reserve a portion of Title IA funds to serve homeless students;
- School districts must review and revise policies that provide barriers to homeless students;
- Schools must post information in the community regarding the rights of homeless students, in schools and other places that homeless families may frequent; and
- School districts must identify a McKinney Vento Liaison to assist students.

How are Students Identified into the McKinney-Vento Program at Crawfordsville Community School Corporation?

Upon enrolling in any Crawfordsville Community School families are required to complete a McKinney-Vento housing questionnaire (Spanish version),the results of this questionnaire will help determine if a student qualifies in the program. As staff members become aware of students who have become homeless they will refer them to the district McKinney-Vento Liaison. As families experience homelessness they are encouraged to reach out to the McKinney-Vento Liaison for assistance.

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How does the McKinney-Vento Program work at Crawfordsville Community School Corporation?

The McKinney-Vento liaison assists in advocating for families and assisting them in coordinating the academic support for their children. The liaison works closely with each building in the district to assure eligible families receive needed support. The liaison assists families with school enrollment for eligible students (regardless of missing immunization or academic records), arranges for busing or transportation assistance, and helps meet other identified needs.

Resources

- United States Department of Education Guidance, Every Student Succeed Act / Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program
- Indiana Department of Education McKinney-Vento: Homeless Children & Youth Program
- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth
- School House Connection
- National Center for Homeless Education
- IDOE Housing Questionnaire (English)
- IDOE Housing Questionnaire (Spanish)

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation

Information for Parents of School-Age Youth



If your family lives in any of the following situations:

- **Homeless Shelter**
- **Doubled-Up With Other People**
- **Car, Park, Empty Building**
- **Motel or Campground**

Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin if that is your preference.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.