Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy
LEA 491 · 4904 N Duncan Drive, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho · cdacharter.org

Independent Student Notice (FAFSA)

Date: _____

To (student name): _____

Dear Student,

Based on your current living situation, you have been identified as an **unaccompanied homeless youth** under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. An unaccompanied homeless youth is a student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

This status matters for college financial aid. When you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you may qualify as an **independent student**. That means you can apply for federal student aid without providing information about your parents or their signature.

As CDACA's McKinney-Vento liaison, I can provide a written verification of your unaccompanied homeless youth status for your FAFSA and for college financial aid offices. To request it, contact me:

Julie Wasson, McKinney-Vento Liaison
Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, 4904 N Duncan Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID
Phone: 208-676-1667, ext. 308 · Email: jwasson@cdacharter.org

Your information is confidential and will be shared only as needed to provide you with services. You also have the right to immediate enrollment, full participation in school activities, and the supports described in the attached Rights and Services notice.

Sincerely,

Julie Wasson
McKinney-Vento Liaison, Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy

Student acknowledgment: _____

Date: _____

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Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Eligibility Determination

This form documents the McKinney-Vento liaison's determination that the student below is an unaccompanied homeless youth under 42 USC 11434a. Keep the original in the confidential McKinney-Vento file; give a copy to the student.

Student name	
Date of birth	
Grade	
School year of determination	
Date of determination	

Nighttime residence (check one)

- ☐ Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- ☐ Living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- ☐ Living in an emergency or transitional shelter
- ☐ Living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting
- ☐ Other place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodation: _____

Unaccompanied status

- ☐ The student is not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.

Basis for determination (check all that apply)

- ☐ Interview with the student
- ☐ Information from a shelter, service provider, or agency
- ☐ Information from a school staff member
- ☐ Other: _____

Liaison determination

I have determined that the student named above is an unaccompanied homeless youth as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. This determination may be used to verify the student's independent student status for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Liaison signature: _____ Date: _____

Julie Wasson, McKinney-Vento Liaison · 208-676-1667, ext. 308 · jwasson@cdacharter.org

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Rights and Services for Unaccompanied Youth

Are you a student without a stable place to stay?

If you are living without a parent or guardian, and you are staying with friends or relatives because you lost your housing, in a motel, a shelter, a car, or any place not meant for sleeping, you have rights under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Your rights

- **Enroll right away.** You can enroll and attend immediately, even without records, proof of residence, or a parent or guardian's signature.
- **Stay in your school.** You can keep attending your school of origin when that is in your best interest.
- **Full participation.** You can take part in all school programs, classes, and activities.
- **Independent student status.** You may qualify as an independent student on the FAFSA. The liaison can verify your status.
- **Privacy.** Your housing situation is kept confidential.
- **Disagree with a decision.** If you disagree with a decision about enrollment or eligibility, you can file a dispute. You stay enrolled while the dispute is resolved, and the liaison will help you through the process.

Supports available at CDACA

- Gas cards to help with transportation to school
- School uniforms at no cost
- Help getting documents such as a birth certificate, state ID, or Social Security card
- Referrals to community agencies for housing, food, health, dental, and mental health services

Who to contact

Julie Wasson, McKinney-Vento Liaison
Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, 4904 N Duncan Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID
Phone: 208-676-1667, ext. 308 · Email: jwasson@cdacharter.org

After hours, dial **211** for the Idaho 211 CareLine. In an emergency, call 911.

How to Use the Idaho 211 CareLine

The Idaho 211 CareLine is a free, confidential service from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. It connects you with local nonprofits, charities, and faith-based organizations that offer free or low-cost help.

How to reach 211

Method	How
Call	Dial 211, or 800-926-2588
Text	Text 898211
Search online	211-idaho.communityos.org or findhelpidaho.org
Hours	Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mountain Time

What 211 can help with

Food, housing, and mental health; financial assistance; health, behavioral health, and substance use services; employment and education; child care; and supports for children and youth.

Steps

1. Call, text, or search online.
2. Tell the specialist your ZIP code (Coeur d'Alene is 83815 or 83814) and what you need, for example "I need a place to stay tonight" or "I need food."
3. Write down the names and phone numbers they give you.
4. If you need help making the call or getting there, contact the CDACA McKinney-Vento liaison: Julie Wasson, 208-676-1667, ext. 308, jwasson@cdacharter.org.

In a crisis

If you are in danger, call 911. For a mental health crisis, call or text 988 (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline), 24 hours a day.

Source: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/211

Local Support Agencies — Kootenai County

For help with any need, start with the Idaho 211 CareLine or contact the CDACA McKinney-Vento liaison, Julie Wasson, at 208-676-1667, ext. 308 or jwasson@cdacharter.org.

Need	Agency	Phone	Address
Any need (referral line)	Idaho 211 CareLine	211 or 800-926-2588	Statewide
Housing, rent and utility help	Kootenai County Assistance	208-446-1883	451 N. Government Way, Coeur d'Alene
Shelter (women and children)	Union Gospel Mission for Women & Children	208-665-4673	196 W. Haycraft Ave., Coeur d'Alene
Shelter (families with children)	Family Promise of North Idaho	208-777-4190	Coeur d'Alene
Domestic violence and sexual assault shelter	Safe Passage	208-664-9303	550 N. 4th St., Coeur d'Alene
Medical, dental, mental health	Heritage Health	208-620-5250	1090 W. Park Place, Coeur d'Alene
Public health (immunizations, WIC)	Panhandle Health District	208-415-5100	8500 N. Atlas Rd., Hayden
Hospital	Kootenai Health	208-625-4000	2003 Kootenai Health Way, Coeur d'Alene
Behavioral health	Kootenai Health Behavioral Health	208-625-4800	2003 Kootenai Health Way, Coeur d'Alene
Mental health or substance use crisis	Northern Idaho Crisis Center	208-625-4884	2195 Ironwood Court, Coeur d'Alene
Medical and children's mobile dental	CHAS Health	509-444-8200	Call for clinic locations
Food bank	Kootenai County Assistance food bank	208-446-1883	4144 W. Industrial Loop, Coeur d'Alene
Suicide and crisis line	988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	Call or text 988	24/7

Source: Kootenai County Resource Directory (updated July 30, 2024), kcgov.us. Confirm current phone numbers and services with each agency.