



THE ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL LIAISONS

North Carolina Homeless Education Program



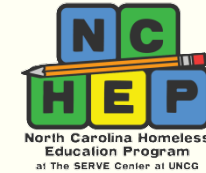
McKinney-Vento Basics

- Guarantees educational rights and services for homeless children and youth
- Requires schools and districts to remove barriers to education
- Requires a local liaison in every school district
- Requires collaboration among school programs and community agencies

Local Liaison Responsibilities

Local homeless liaisons must ensure:

- HCY are identified by school personnel and other agencies
- HCY enroll in school and have full and equal opportunity to succeed
- Homeless families, children, and youth receive educational services for which they are eligible, including referrals to health and other services
- Homeless parents and guardians are informed of educational rights and opportunities to participate in the education of their children



Local Liaison Responsibilities

Local homeless liaisons must ensure:

- Public notice of educational rights of homeless children and youth is disseminated
- Enrollment disputes are mediated per NCHPEP and district policies
- Parents, guardians of HCY are informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin
- Collaboration and coordination with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services

Who to Identify

Individuals who *lack a fixed, regular, and adequate* nighttime residence

- Shared housing *due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason*
- Motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds *due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations*
- Emergency or transitional shelters
- Awaiting foster care placement

Who to Identify

- A public or private place not designated for or used as a sleeping accommodation for human beings
- Cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- Migratory children *living in the circumstances previously described*
- Unaccompanied youth *living in the circumstances previously described*

Questions



Key McKinney-Vento Provisions

- School Access: Immediate enrollment, even when records are missing
- School Stability:
 - Right to remain in the school of origin when in the child's best interest and feasible
 - School of origin: school attended when housed or last known school of attendance
 - If in the child's best interest to remain in school of origin, LEA must provide transportation if requested
- School Success: Connecting homeless students to programs and services
 - Title I, Part A; school meals; transportation; gifted and talented; alternative education

Best Interest & Feasibility Considerations

- Student's Age
- Length of commute and its impact on the student's education
- Personal safety issues
- Need for special instruction
- Anticipated length of stay in temporary residence
- Time remaining in school year

Dispute Resolution

- LEAs must provide written notice to the parent of its decision and instructions for how to file an appeal
- If the parent disputes a decision, the LEA must follow the local and NCHPEP dispute process
 - Parents & LEA provide evidence
 - State Coordinator reviews and renders a decision
 - Student attend school while the dispute is reviewed
- Download the NCHPEP policy
http://center.serve.org/hepnc/nc_pol.php

Questions



Carrying Out Your Role Effectively

- Read the McKinney-Vento Act and 2004 Non-Regulatory Guidance; keep copies handy
- Learn about your school district's homeless education program, policies, and procedures
- Develop relationships with school personnel and community partners that serve homeless students

Title I, Part A

Transportation

Shelter providers

Mental health agencies

IDEA

Child Nutrition

Head Starts

Community action programs

Carrying Out Your Role Effectively

- Keep good records and files
- Take advantage of learning opportunities
 - NCHPEP and NCHE materials on the website
 - Webinars
 - NAEHCY conference
- Call NCHPEP staff, the NCHPEP Helpline, or NCHE
- Learn from your peers – *Find a Buddy!*

Subgrants 2014-2017

- What is the purpose of a McKinney-Vento subgrant?
 - To facilitate the enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youth.

- Who is eligible to apply for a subgrant?
 - All North Carolina local educational agencies (LEAs) are eligible to apply.
 - LEAs may subcontract with other agencies; however, the local school system assumes responsibility for setting program goals and monitoring program accomplishments.
 - The LEA will serve in the capacity of fiscal agent.

Subgrants 2014-2017

- Applying as a Consortium
 - LEAs, including charter schools, that have identified less than 50 homeless students may submit an application as a consortium of LEAs whose total number of identified homeless students is greater than 50.
- How are funding decisions made?
 - Subgrants will be based on federal allocations
 - Subgrants will be based on need and program quality

Subgrants 2014-2017

Application Schedule

- Late January: NCHPEP will provide a webinar to discuss the process for applying for the subgrant
- Late January to early February: RFP will be released to liaisons
 - Announcements about the subgrant will be made through the NCHPEP listserv and website, and through the NCDPI communications system that includes Superintendents, Title I Directors, and Finance Directors.
- Early March: Applications submitted in CCIP (Continuous Competitive Improvement Plan) program through NCDPI
- April: Recommendations provided to NCDPI for SBE approval

Questions





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