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## **McKinney-Vento Act:**

**42 USC § 11431 – STATEMENT OF POLICY:** The following is policy of the Congress:

- (1) Each State educational agency shall ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.
- (2) In any State that has a compulsory residency requirement as a component of the State's compulsory school attendance laws or other laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths, the State will review and undertake steps to revise such laws, regulations, practices, or policies to ensure that homeless children and youths are afforded the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths.
- (3) Homelessness alone is not sufficient reason to separate students from the mainstream school environment.
- (4) Homeless children and youths should have access to the education and other services that such children and youths need to ensure that such children and youths have an opportunity to meet the same challenging State student academic achievement standards to which all students are held.

## **Eligibility Under McKinney-Vento:**

**Children or youth who lack  
a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence  
including:**

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- Migratory children living in the above circumstances
- Unaccompanied youth living in the above circumstances

**Direct immediate  
questions regarding  
eligibility and  
services to:**

[Enter LEA/Charter School Name  
here]

[Enter Homeless Liaison's Name  
here], **McKinney-Vento Liaison**

**Phone:** [Enter Homeless Liaison's  
phone number here]

**Email:** [Enter Homeless Liaison's  
email here]

*The remaining portion of this inset  
box could contain local resource  
links/information, if desired. If not,  
this inset box can be shortened to  
allow for additional space in the  
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## **Parent/Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Rights:**

**Unaccompanied homeless youth are ensured the same educational rights that the McKinney-Vento Act provides for other homeless students, which include the right to:**

- Enroll immediately, even if they do not currently have paperwork normally required for enrollment.
- Attend either the local attendance area school or the school of origin, with the placement decision based on the student's best interest.
- Remain in the school of origin for the duration of the homelessness or until the end of the school year in which the student becomes permanently housed.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin.
- Receive educational services, such as free school meals, Title I services, participate in gifted and talented programs, vocational education, alternative education, and any other services comparable to what housed students receive.
- Not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.

## ***NCHC Parent Right Brochure:***

*English & Spanish*

**In addition to the provisions that apply to all homeless students, the McKinney-Vento Act includes the following provisions specifically for unaccompanied homeless youth:**

- Unaccompanied homeless youth shall be immediately enrolled without proof of guardianship.
- During a dispute over school selection or enrollment, unaccompanied homeless youth shall receive a written statement explaining the school's decision, the youth's right to appeal the decision, and a referral to the local liaison.

## ***NCHC Youth Educational Rights Posters***

*English & Spanish*

## ***NCHC Parent Educational Rights Posters***

*English & Spanish*

**Local Liaisons shall assist unaccompanied homeless youth in:**

- Selecting a school of attendance and enrolling in school.
- Requesting transportation to and from the school of origin.
- Enrolling in school immediately while disputes are resolved.

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**Additional McKinney-Vento information and homeless data:**

**[North Carolina Homeless Education Program](#)**

State Coordinator's Office for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth:

[NCHEP Contact Information](#)

[NCHEP "About"](#): Historical State-Level Homeless Data

**[National Center for Homeless Education](#)**

[National Homeless Data](#)