

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)

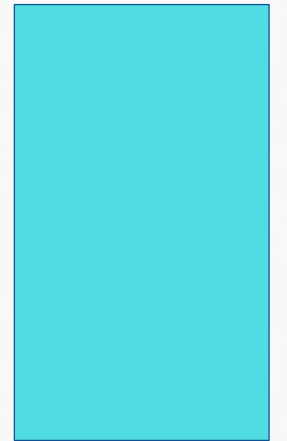
- Operates U.S. Department of Education's homeless education technical assistance & information center
- Provides
 - Website: www.ed.gov/nche
 - Toll-free helpline: 800-308-2145 or homeless@serve.org
 - Listserv: Visit www.ed.gov/nche/listserv.php for subscription instructions
 - Free resources: www.ed.gov/nche/products.php

TRANSITIONING HOMELESS YOUTH TO HIGHER EDUCATION

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National Center for Homeless Education

NCHEP LEARNING INSTITUTE
WILMINGTON, NC
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Role of the Liaison

- Must inform UHY of their independent status for the FAFSA, and assist in obtaining documentation of this status.
- Have the option to make subsequent year determinations for UHY if they have access to the information necessary to make such a determination
- For more information, see question Q-2 at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/160240ehcyguidance072716.pdf>

Accompanied Homeless Youth

- Accompanied: In physical custody of a parent or guardian
- Homeless: Living arrangement meets the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless
- Students experiencing homelessness with their families fill out the FAFSA as dependent students and include parental financial information and signature
- Federal aid packages are calculated based on student plus parent's income and assets
- Homeless students from low-income families usually qualify for the maximum amount of federal aid

Unaccompanied & Homeless or At-Risk of homelessness

- UHY and unaccompanied youth at risk of homelessness complete FAFSA as independent students
 - **Unaccompanied:** Not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian
 - **Homeless:** Living arrangement meets the M-V definition of homeless
 - **At risk of homelessness:** When a student's housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate, for example, a student who is being evicted and has been unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing

Independent students

- Do not have to include parent financial information or parental signature on their FAFSA
- Federal aid packages are calculated based solely on the student's own income and assets

Determiners of Independent Status

- **Local homeless education liaison** - for high school seniors who were identified as UHY while in high school; can make subsequent year determinations for students in college
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) shelter director or designee** - for students who have received services
- **Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) shelter director or designee** - for students who have received services
- **Financial Aid Administrator (FAA)** - for any student, but particularly those who cannot get a determination from one of the other three authorized parties

Verification

- Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Documentation of Independent Student Status for the FAFSA
http://naehcy.org/sites/default/files/images/dl/uy_fafsa_template2016.doc
- Making Student Status Determinations for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: Eligibility Tool for Financial Aid Administrators (for 2018-2019 FAFSA)
https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/faa_det_tool-1819.pdf

For more information

- NCHE https://nche.ed.gov/ibt/higher_ed.php (Links to posters, toolkit, briefs, etc.)
 - Scholarships <https://nche.ed.gov/ibt/scholarships.php>
- NAEHCY <http://naehcy.org/educational-resources/higher-ed>
- SchoolHouse Connection <https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/learn/higher-education/>
- *Application and Verification Guide - 2017-2018*
<https://ifap.ed.gov/fsahandbook/attachments/1718AVG.pdf>



Questions?