

# McKinney-Vento and Homeless Act

2017-18

# Who is covered under the McKinney-Vento Act

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

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for sleeping
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, etc.
- Migratory living in circumstances described above

## Definition of Unaccompanied Youth:

1. Lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence (MV) +
2. Not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.
  - May enroll and receive services under McKinney-Vento without a parent or guardian, with help from the McKinney-Vento Liaison.
  - School districts must remove barriers to their participation in school and inform such students of and verify their status as independent students for purposes of the FAFSA.
  - [YouTube video explaining eligibility for McKinney-Vento Act](#)

## District Liaisons work to ensure that:

1. Children and youths who are homeless are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
2. Children and youths who are homeless are enrolled in, and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in, the school or schools of the LEA;
3. Families, children and youths who are homeless have access to and receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs), early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA, and other preschool programs administered by the LEA;
4. Families, children, and youths who are homeless receive referrals to health, dental, mental health, and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;
5. Parents or guardians of children and youths who are homeless are informed of educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;

## Points to remember

- At time of registration if a youth does not have all records to enroll the district must register the student and ask questions later.
- All district staff should contact liaisons if they believe a student may be homeless or an unaccompanied youth.
- **BE SENSITIVE TO STUDENT/FAMILY NEEDS**

## Quick Tip Links

[NYS Homeless website](#)

[SED September Field Memo](#)

## Resources used for Presentation

[NYS Teachs Toolkit](#)

MCKinney-Vento Liaisons

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