

Educational Rights of Children and Youth Of Families in Transition OR Experiencing Homelessness

Your child has been identified as qualifying under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. This act is the primary piece of federal legislation dealing with the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness in the U.S. public school.

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.” The act provides examples of children who fall under this definition:

- Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Children and youth living in motels, hotels, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Children and youth abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youth awaiting foster care placement
- Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations)
- Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations

Educational Right of student qualifying under McKinney Vento:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there.
- Continue in the school they last attended before becoming homeless or the school they last attended, if that is the parent’s or guardian’s choice and is feasible.
- Receive transportation to the school they last attended before their family became homeless or the school they last attended, if a parent or guardian requests such transportation.

- Attend school and participate in school programs with children who are not homeless.
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer or school and immunization records or any other documents required for enrollment.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other children served in these programs.
- Receive transportation to school and to school programs comparable to that provided to children who are not homeless.

Your Lake Hamilton School District contact person is:

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