

McKinney-Vento 101

e-Newsletter Volume 1

What is McKinney-Vento?



Serving Students In Transition

What is McKinney-Vento?

According to the Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is described as a federal law created to support the enrollment and education of homeless students. McKinney-Vento is intended to provide homeless students the same educational opportunities as housed students by removing as many barriers to learning for homeless students as possible.

Under federal law, each LEA is required to designate a liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness.



Dr. John Shaffer
CLSD Homeless Liaison
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It is the liaison's duty to train school staff to help identify children and youth experiencing homelessness in order to receive the education that is their surest path out of homelessness and poverty.



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How to Identify Students Experiencing Homelessness

Children and youth experience homelessness when they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes shared housing, living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternatives, living in emergency or transitional shelters, living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing and bus or train stations.

Fixed

- Is this permanent or temporary?
- Do you hope to move out soon?
- What lead you to your current living arrangement?
- Are you staying with a family member or friend?

Regular

- Do you stay at the same place every night?
- Do you have a key?
- Are you able to come and go as you please?
- How long do you plan to stay?

Adequate

- How many people live in the home?
- Does everyone have a bed?
- Does the home have heat, electricity and running water/
- What is the current condition?

What Can be Done to Help?

Your school liaison can help with school enrollment (even without certain required documents), signing up for free or reduced lunch, coordinating transportation to and from school, access to resources to help with school fees, supplies and basic needs, and writing a letter that will allow the student to apply for financial aid (FAFSA) even if they don't have parental information.

If you suspect a student is homeless, please contact Erin Callihan.

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Additional Resources



Serving Students In Transition

- **PA Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Site:**
<https://sites.google.com/berksiu.org/ecyeh/home>
- **Impact of Homelessness**
<https://ecyeh.center-school.org/about/impact-of-homelessness/>
- **PA's ECYEH Program:**
<https://www.berksiu.org/students-families/k-12-education-student-services/ecyeh/>
- **Professional Development**
<https://ecyeh.center-school.org/professional-development/>
- **Education of Homeless Youth ~ Basic Education Center**
<https://www.education.pa.gov/Policy-Funding/BECs/uscode/Pages/EducationforHomelessYouth.aspx>
- **PBS Newshour Video**
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/fight-student-homelessness-school-district-helps-whole-family>
- **ECYEH Training Videos**
<https://sites.google.com/berksiu.org/ecyeh/training-resources/ecyeh-training-videos?pli=1>
- **SchoolHouse Connection**
<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/>
- **Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility**
https://d1fdloi71mui9q.cloudfront.net/QUivEOUmRGKSOHDK3zkR_Determining%20McKinney-Vento%20Eligibility.pdf
- **McKinney-Vento Informational Flyer**
https://d1fdloi71mui9q.cloudfront.net/mBzsei76Qjigb57GkgeR_MKV%20Staff%20Email%20April%202023.pdf

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