

## McKinney Vento Act

### Frequently asked Questions

Can students who move out of county receive transportation?

Yes. Transportation is required even if the school of origin is in another school district. McKinney still applies if a student finds temporary housing across state, county or district lines from the school of origin.

What is the “school of origin”?

School of origin is defined as the school the student attended when permanently housed, or the school in which the student was last enrolled. Students must be allowed to attend their school of origin “to the extent feasible” unless it is against the wishes of the parent or guardian.

Does a family living “doubled up” qualify under McKinney Vento?

Yes. Children and youth who are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing are covered by McKinney Vento Act.

If a family shows up at my school homeless, should I enroll them?

Yes. Children and youth in homeless situations are entitled to “immediate enrollment” first in the school of origin or “any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.”

### Are students living in foster care covered by McKinney Vento?

Students in foster care are not covered by McKinney Vento even if they change placements.

### Once a student obtains permanent housing must they attend their base school?

Students have the right to remain in the school of origin for the duration of the homelessness. In addition, if the student moves into permanent housing during the school year, the student can finish that academic year in the school of origin.

### Can we receive records without the parent signature?

The previous school can transfer records to the new school without a parent's signature. FERPA allows schools to release records without a parent's permission to schools to which a student is transferring. (20 U.S.C 1232g.) A previous school cannot refuse to send records due to fees owed for textbooks, etc. This would be a barrier to enrollment and retention of the student in school, which violates McKinney.

### Can a youth be enrolled without a guardian?

An unaccompanied youth is defined as a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. We must immediately enroll unaccompanied youth who are age 21 and under without proof of guardianship papers and without a caregiver.

### Are students entitled to receive Title I services?

McKinney students are automatically eligible for Title IA services, whether or not they live in a Title I school attendance area or meet the academic standards required of other children for eligibility.

### What happens when a student comes to school mid-semester?

If a student enrolls mid-semester, a school must make any necessary adjustments to the student's schedule to permit the student to obtain partial or pro-rated credit for his/her work.

\*Information from the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act, CMS Office of Federal and State Compliance, NACHEY and NLCHP.