

Overview of McKinney-Vento Services



Presented by the New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center for Homeless Students (NYS-TEACHS)

Agenda

Background & Liaison Role

School Selection & Enrollment

Transportation

Title I Services & Other Programs

The Negative Impact of School Transfers

Negative Academic Outcomes:

- Lower test scores
- O More likely to repeat a grade
- O Higher drop-out rate

Negative Social/Emotional Outcomes:

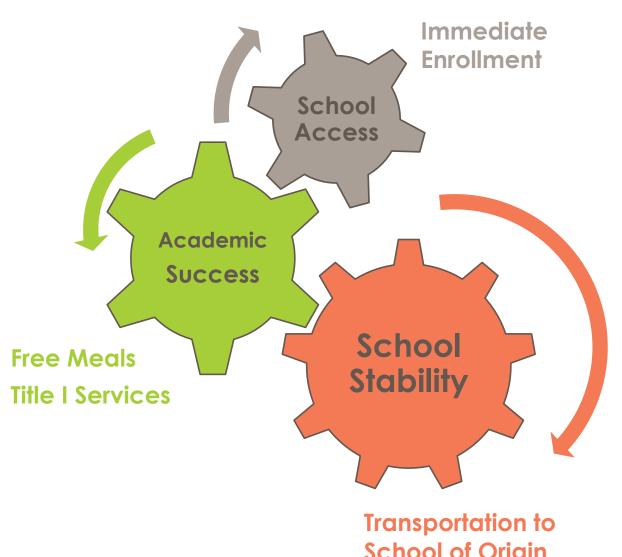
- Loss of supportive relationships
- Decreased engagement (high absenteeism)
- Increase in negative behaviors and disciplinary actions



The McKinney-Vento Act

- O Federal law
- Enacted in 1987
- Reauthorized in 2015 as part of ESSA

McKinney-Vento Act NY State Education Law 3209 Commissioner's Regulation 100.2(x)



Poll

What is your role?

- a. I'm the McKinney-Vento Liaison for my district
- b. I work at a school district but I'm not the Liaison
- c. I work for a social services provider
- d. Other

The 10 McKinney-Vento Liaison Responsibilities

- 1. Identification
- 2. Enrollment
- 3. Referrals for Early Childhood
- 4. Referrals for Health, Housing, and Other Needed Services
- 5. Parent Involvement

Liaison Responsibilities, cont'd

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A); US Dep't of Ed Non-Regulatory Guidance, Section F, Questions L-3 & Q2; 8 NYCRR § 100.2(x)(7)(iii)(a)

- 6. Posting Public Notice
- Dispute Resolution
- 8. Transportation
- 9. Training for Colleagues
- 10. Meeting Needs of Unaccompanied Youth

School Selection & Enrollment

Poll

When a student moves into permanent housing, they must transfer to the zoned school for the permanent address within two weeks of the move.

- A. True
- B. False

School/District Selection: Up to three options



School attended when last permanently housed (School of Origin)



School most recently attended (Also a **School of Origin**)



School serving area where student is temporarily living (New Local School)

School of Origin vs. Local School Considerations

Continuity of instruction

Age and grade of student

Academic strength

Social and emotional state

Distance and impact of commute

Personal safety of student

Student's need for special instruction

Length of anticipated stay at temp location

Adapted from the National Center for Homeless Education

School selection and Best Interest Decision-Making

School Selection: Will my child stay in their school of origin, or do I feel strongly that they should transfer to the local school?



Best Interest Decision-Making: School of origin is typically best, unless the family disagrees based on what's best for them.

Designation Form: STAC 202

Two purposes:

- Official Designation form (complete for every M-V student enrolled in your district and send a copy to districts listed)
- <u>Tuition Reimbursement</u> form

If DSS places child or youth in a temporary housing facility or RHYA facility, DSS must complete designation form within two days and give to the designated school district.

STAC ID	The University of the State of New York THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STAC & Special Aids Unit Room 514, Education Building Albarry, NY 12234		
Designation of	School District of Attende	ance for a Homeless Child	
Submitted by: Local Dept of Social Services (DSS) Designated School District of Attendance (PSD)			
		SE BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM	
1. NAME OF CHILD	2. DATE OF BIRTH	3. GENDER	
LAST NAME		MO/DAY/YR M F	
FIRST NAME	M.L.		
5. Racial/Ethnic Category of Child (See definitions on rever	rse side of last page.)	6. GRADE LEVEL FOR WHICH PLACEMENT IS SOUGHT	
American Ind or Asian or Alaskan Native Pacific Isl. Black	Hispanic White	7A. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE BEFORE BECOMING HOMELESS	
7. COMPLETE ADDRESS BEFORE CHILD/FAMILY B	ECAME HOMELESS		
		78. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE LAST ENROLLED	
8, COMPLETE ADDRESS OF CURRENT LOCATION	DATE CHILD/FAMILY PLACED IN TEMPORARY HOUSING	SA. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CURRENT LOCATION	
	i i		
	MONTH DAY YEAR	9A .NYS DESIGNATED DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE	
9, DATE DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE CHOSEN	1 1		
	MONTH DAY YEAR	One of four school districts may be chosen to provide the education	
10, DATE PLACED IN PERMANENT HOUSING	i i	component: the school district of attendance before becoming homeless, the school district where last enrolled, the school district of current	
	MONTH DAY YEAR	location or a school district participating in a Regional Placement Plan. This designation may be changed either prior to the end of the first semester of attendance or within 60 days of making this designation, whichever occurs later.	
 Check the appropriate box if the designated school district and from the district of current location (8A). 	t of attendance (9A) is different from t	the district of attendance before becoming homeless (7A)	
District participating in a Regional Placement Plan OR	District where last enrolled (78 and the district of current loca	 if it is different from the district where last permanently housed (7A) tion (8A). 	

NAME OF PARENT OR PERSON IN PARENTAL RELATIONSHIP

TELEPHONE NUMBER

AREA CODE

Immediate Enrollment of Students Experiencing Homelessness



- Selected school must immediately enroll:
 - Even if the child/youth does not have records normally needed for enrollment; or
 - Child/youth has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
- Enrolling school contacts last school attended for academic and other records.
- Liaison must assist with obtaining immunizations

Immediate Enrollment

Remove barriers due to fees, fines, and absences

Enroll immediately

Remove barriers to all types of programs and activities

Provide credit for full or partially completed coursework at prior school Student can maintain enrollment in school of origin for duration of homelessness plus finish out year (+1 additional, in some cases)

1: 42 U.S.C. § 11432[g][3][C][i]; U.S. Department of Education's Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question I-5.

Connecting Families with Early Childhood Education

- O Coordinate with and connect families with:
 - Head Start and Early Head Start programs in your community. Head Start Locator: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices
 - the county Early Intervention Official: <u>https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants_children/early_intervention/county_eip.htm</u>
 - the district's Pre-K Coordinator:
 http://www.p12.nysed.gov/upk/upkdirectory.html
 - the county Child Care Resource and Referral agency: http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/referralagencies.asp
 - Home visiting programs:
 https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants-children/maternal-infant-early-child-home-visit/

"I just finished enrolling your son and we'll get his cubby ready in Ms.
Jones' first grade classroom for tomorrow morning. Does your son have any younger siblings?"

Student Privacy Rights Under FERPA

- Information about the living situation of a student who is homeless is part of the student's record, subject to the protections of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- FERPA rights transfer to the student when he or she turns 18.
- FERPA prohibits an LEA from disclosing personally identifiable information from students' education records without consent of parent or eligible student.
- Under McKinney-Vento, information about the living situation of a child who is homeless (e.g. address, housing status) must be provided the same privacy protections under FERPA.
- This does not change a district's obligation to forward records to a new LEA for purposes of enrollment.

Overview of the Dispute Resolution Process

Immediately
enroll the student
in the school
requested by the
family, or youth
and provide
transportation if
requested.

Provide the parent or youth with a **WRITTEN NOTICE** of district's determination.

Family has 30 days to appeal district's determination.

Continue

enrollment and transportation until all available appeals are final. Help the parent or youth complete all of the appeal papers.

New Resource!

Transportation

Poll

Students are entitled to transportation to their school of origin through the remainder of the school year in which they become permanently housed. a.True

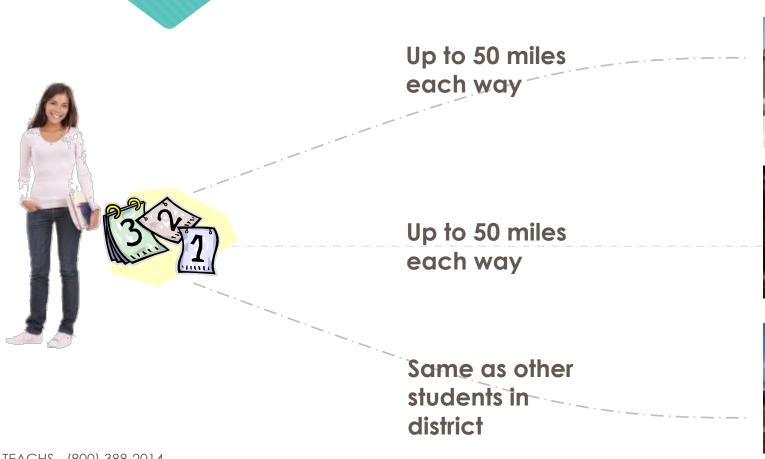
b.False

Transportation for Students in Temporary Housing

- Students experiencing homelessness, including preschoolers, are entitled to transportation to school of origin.
- Students who move into permanent housing are entitled to transportation through the remainder of the school year and an additional year if it is the child's terminal grade in the school.
- Students who enroll locally are entitled to comparable transportation as their permanently housed peers receive, and elimination of barriers to enroll in and attend school.



Designated School District of Attendance is Responsible for Transportation





Last permanently housed



Most recently attended



New local school

Transportation to (pre)school of origin

State law defines **preschool** as publicly funded:



Pre-k programs administered by a local educational agency (LEA) or NYSED



Head Start programs administered by an LEA



Preschool services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) administered by an LEA

- School of origin protections, including transportation, are available for preschoolers
- Preschoolers are entitled to transportation to school of origin even if transportation is not provided to permanently housed children who attend the same program.
- SED Memo, 2/28/17: <u>Information on Transportation of Prekindergarten Students under Four Years of Age</u>

When is the Department of Social Services (DSS) responsible for transportation?

Department of social services placed the family in emergency housing outside of the school district where the student goes to school



Student is eligible for Emergency Assistance for Families (EAF)

NYS-TEACHS - (800) 388-2014 Education Law §3209(4)(a)

Obligations of the Local Department of Social Services

- LDSS responsible for transporting students who meet criteria (LDSS placed in temporary housing outside the school district where student is enrolled + student EAF-eligible), including:
 - Students with individualized education programs (IEPs), including specialized transportation services
 - O Preschool students

- O If LDSS requests that the designated school district of attendance provide or arrange for this transportation, LDSS must fully and promptly reimburse the school district for the cost as determined by the school district.
 - District does not receive transportation aid for student, bills LDSS for entire cost of transportation.
 - Sample DSS transportation protocol

What About Transportation to ...?

Extra-Curricular Activities

Districts (or DSS, if applicable) must provide transportation if:

- Student is participating or would like to participate in an extracurricular activity,
- The student meets relevant eligibility criteria, and
- Lack of transportation poses a barrier to participation.

Education Law §3209(4)(f); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(6)(vi).

Summer School

Districts must provide transportation if:

- Student has been recommended to participate in summer school, and
- Lack of transportation poses a barrier to participation.

Education Law §3209(4)(e); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(6)(v).

Transportation Funding Sources

State Aid

RHY Reimbursement

Title I, Part A

*DSS is responsible for transportation when family was placed in emergency housing outside District of Origin + student is EAF-eligible

Revised Transportation Guide

- Our <u>short guide to</u>
 <u>transportation</u>
 summarizes
 transportation
 obligations, funding
 sources, and legal
 authority for situations
 involving students in
 temporary housing.
- Revised Winter 2018 to include ESSA changes





TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING IN NEW YORK STATE

Housing Situation	Transportation	Responsibility	Funding Sources	Legal Authority
Temporarily Housed <u>Within</u> the School District	Student is entitled to transportation to their school of origin ¹ , including public preschool (e.g., pre-k), even if the student is temporarily housed in a different school zone. If the student transfers to a local school zoned for where they are temporarily residing, they are entitled to transportation comparable to permanently housed students, unless the lack of transportation poses a barrier to the student's attendance in school.	The school district where the student is enrolled is responsible for transportation.	State transportation aid² (claimed by district where student is enrolled) AND If the student attends the school of origin, Title I, Part A set-aside funds for expenses not reimbursed by State transportation aid	20 U.S.C. § 6313(c)(3)(C)(ii)(II); 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(I); 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(4)(A); N.Y. Education Law § 3209(4)(d) N.Y. Education Law § 3209(6)(b) N.Y. Education Law § 3209(6)(b) N.Y. Education Law § 3622-a(1); 8 N.Y.C.R.R. § 100.2(x)(6)(iii)-(iv
Temporarily Housed <u>Outside</u> of the School District, but not in Department of Social Services Emergency Housing Placement	Student is entitled to transportation to and from the school of origin, including public preschool (e.g., pre-k), up to 50 miles one way, unless the commissioner certifies that a distance greater than 50 miles is in the best interest of the student. Parent may also be entitled to transportation if student cannot travel alone.	The school district where the student is enrolled is responsible for transportation.	State transportation aid (claimed by district where student is enrolled) AND Title I, Part A set-aside funds for expenses not reimbursed by State transportation aid	20 U.S.C. § 6313(c)(3)(C)(ii)(II); 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii); N.Y. Education Law § 3209(4)(c); N.Y. Education Law § 3622-a(1); 8 N.Y.C.R.R. § 100.2(x)(6)(iv).
Temporarily Housed <u>Outside</u> of the School District in a <u>Department of</u> Social Services (DSS) Emergency Housing Placement	Student is entitled to transportation to and from the school of origin, including public school (e.g., pre-k), up to 50 miles one way, unless the commissioner certifies that a distance greater than 50 miles is in the best interest of the student. Parent may also be entitled to transportation if student cannot travel alone.	The local department of social services (DSS) is responsible for transportation if it places a student in emergency housing outside of the school district and the student is eligible for Emergency Assistance for Families (EAF). This includes children who attend pre-k and students who attend school at a BOCES. If DSS requests that the school district provide transportation, the school district must transport and the DSS must promptly reimburse the school district. If student is not eligible for EAF or if DSS places the family in emergency housing within the school district, the school district is responsible for transportation.	If school district transports, DSS reimburses the school district. School district cannot claim State transportation aid for expenses reimbursed by DSS. DSS receives federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding for transportation expenses.	42 U.S.C. § I 1432(g)(1)(J)(iii); N.Y. Education Law § 3209(4)(a).
Temporarily	Student is entitled to transportation to and from the		Pull and the land of the land	

Title I Services & Other Programs

Students Experiencing Homelessness are Entitled to Free Meals

McKinney-Vento

Free Meals

No paperwork



30

Poll

Which of the following best describes the use of Title I, Part A funds for students in temporary housing?

- a. Funded services only available to students in Title I schools or receiving targeted assistance under the program.
- b. Funds can be used to provide services to students in temp housing that may not ordinarily be provided to other Title I students.
- c. All students in temporary housing who attend districts/charter schools receiving Title I funds are eligible for services, even if they do not attend a Title I school.
- d. B and C

All LEAs Must Do a Title I, Part A set-aside

- Reservation may be determined based on a needs assessment, and must be based on the total allocation received by the LEA.
- Reservation may be used for services not ordinarily provided by Title I, including local liaisons and transportation to the school of origin.



NYS-TEACHS - (800) 388-2014 20 U.S.C. § 6313(c)(3) 32

Students Experiencing Homelessness are Categorically Eligible for Title I Services

- **Allowable Expenditures Include (not limited to):
- Academic programs and educational support services
- Basic/emergency supplies
- Extended library hours/after school programs
- Counseling services
- Parental involvement activities
- Excess transportation costs
- The work of the ligison

NYSED's Guidance on Allowable and Unallowable Expenditures



TITLE I, Part A: Homeless Set-aside

Guidance on Allowable and Unallowable Expenditures

Title I, Part A funds may be used to provide a wide variety of services to homeless students. In addition to providing services to assist homeless students in meeting the State's challenging academic standards, Title I, Part A funds may be used to provide services to homeless children and youths, including those in Title I schools, that may not ordinarily be provided to other Title I students. For example, to help homeless students effectively take advantage of educational opportunities, an LEA may use Title I, Part A funds to provide, where appropriate, items or services including, but not limited to:

Allowable Expenditures	Unallowable Expenditures
Items of clothing and shoes necessary for	 Rent or temporary lodgings
participation in classes	Class ring
Student fees that are necessary to participate in	Cost of drivers' test fees
the general education program	Prom gowns or tuxedos
Personal school supplies such as backpacks and	Note: Two principles govern the use of Title I,
notebooks	Part A funds to provide services to homeless
The acquisition of birth certificates	students.
Immunizations	
■ Food	First, the services must be reasonable and

LEA Obligations to Support Students in Going to College

- NYSED Field Memo (April 2018): College Counseling and Access for Youth Experiencing Homelessness
- O Field Memo details that LEAs must ensure that:
 - Youth experiencing homelessness receive individualized college counseling.
 - All unaccompanied youth who are homeless receive verification of their independent student status for the purposes of federal and state financial aid.
 - LEA personnel working with students in temporary housing are trained.
- Districts must also ensure that students get credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school.



College Access Checklist

- nysteachs.org/resources/ny s-teachs-supportingcollege-access-checklist/
- Includes information about:
 - Identification and college prep
 - College applications
 - Financial aid
 - Supporting students in college

McKinney-Vento Liaison Checklist: Supporting College Access



The following checklist is designed to help school districts and liaisons meet their obligations under the federal McKinney-Vento Act, which requires that:

- Liaisons ensure that school personnel working with students who are homeless receive professional development;
- School districts ensure that youth who are homeless don't face barriers to accessing academic and extracurricular activities and are provided with transportation if needed;
- School districts award full or partial credit for coursework satisfactorily completed at a prior school;
- School districts ensure that youths who are homeless receive college counseling;
- Liaisons ensure that unaccompanied youth who are homeless are told that they can apply for federal
 financial aid as independent students and are given verification of their independent student status for
 purposes of the FAFSA; and
- Liaisons ensure that youth are referred to housing services.

+

ACTION	THIS HAPPENS IN MY DISTRICT	DO or DELEGATE	TIMELINE	NEXT STEPS
SECTION 1: Identification and College	Prep			
(1) Provide training to high school guidance counselors and college counselors about their role in identifying students experiencing homelessness and supporting them access college.	Yes No Unsure	Do Delegate_ *If delegate, who?	Ongoing	
(2) Ensure that students who are MV eligible: • have course schedules that put them on track to graduate, • have access to summer school if needed, • are provided with partial credit for	Yes No Unsure	Do Delegate_ 약f delegate, who?	Ongoing	

Poll

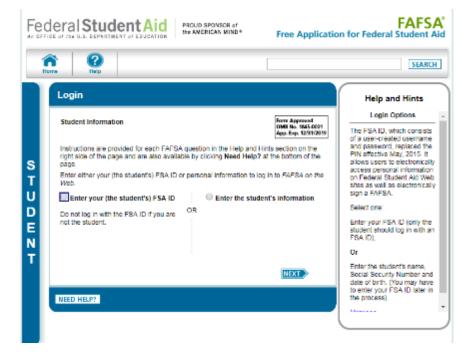
All 12th graders who experience homelessness can apply for financial aid as independent students using the FAFSA.

a.True

b.False

FAFSA: Homeless Unaccompanied Youth

- Liaisons must inform homeless unaccompanied youth of their status as independent students for college financial aid on the FAFSA, and must give them verification of their independent student status.
- Student must be determined to be unaccompanied and homeless after July 1 of the year prior to FAFSA application (e.g. After July 1, 2019 for the 2020-21 FAFSA).
- FAFSA's Application and Verification Guide describes guidelines in detail: https://ifap.ed.gov/ifap/byAwardYear.jsp?type=fsahandbook.



FAFSA: Sample Verification Letter

Verification Letter
template created
by SchoolHouse
Connection



Independent Student Status of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Determination for the 2018-2019 FAFSA

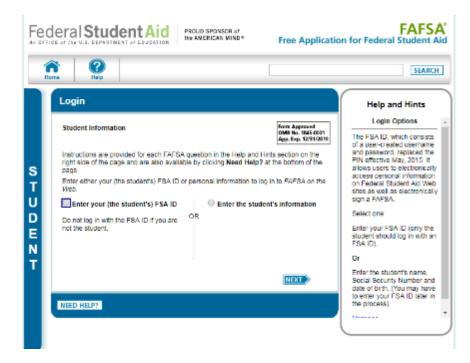
To Whom It May Concern:	
I am providing this letter to convey my determination that after July 1, 2017, [NAME OF STUDE	NT] was
☐ an unaccompanied homeless youth, as defined by the College Cost Reduction and Access Ac and the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act and the U.S. Department of Education's 2015, Dear Colleague Letter.	
☐ an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth at risk of homelessness.	
Student's SSN:	
Student's DOB:	
Student's Mailing Address: [if the student does not have a stable address, you may list the nam	e, phon
number and mailing address of a friend or relative, or the school	

As per the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84), I am authorized to document this student's living situation and determine his/her independent student status as an unaccompanied homeless youth or unaccompanied, self-supporting youth at risk of homelessness. The financial aid office is not required to confirm this determination in the absence of conflicting information. It is not conflicting information if the financial aid administrator disagrees with my determination. Feel free to address any questions to me at the number or e-mail address listed below.

Signature	Date
Print Name	Phone
Empil	

FAFSA: Homeless Unaccompanied Youth

- Liaisons must inform homeless unaccompanied youth of their status as independent students for college financial aid on the FAFSA, and must give them verification of their independent student status.
- O Student must be determined to be unaccompanied and homeless after July 1 of the year prior to FAFSA application (e.g. After July 1, 2016 for the 2017-18 FAFSA).
- FAFSA's Application and Verification Guide describes guidelines in detail: https://ifap.ed.gov/ifap/byAwardYear.jsp?type=fsahandbook.



Key Takeaways

- 1. School stability is a protective factor for children and youth in temporary housing.
- 2. Students in temporary housing are entitled to **immediate enrollment**, even if they don't have the records typically required for enrollment.
- 3. Students who are homeless are entitled to transportation to their school of origin, and students who move into permanent housing are entitled to continued transportation to their school of origin through the remainder of the school year.
- 4. Students in temporary housing are categorically eligible for free meals and services under Title I, Part A.
- 5. Young children should be referred to **early childhood education programs** and high schoolers should be assisted with **college prep**.

Resources from NYS-TEACHS

- Free <u>brochures</u> are available in English and in Spanish
- Free **posters** in 10 languages
- Toll-free <u>Infoline</u> 800-388-2014
- Website, www.nysteachs.org



For more information, call
NYS-TEACHS 800-388-2014

www.nysteachs.org



Contact Us

Infoline: 800-388-2014

Email: info@nysteachs.org

Website: <u>nysteachs.org</u>

