



# NYSTEACHS

NEW YORK STATE TECHNICAL AND EDUCATION  
ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

# Early Care and Education Programs for Young Children Experiencing Homelessness



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

# Agenda

1

- The importance of early childhood education and the role of the McKinney-Vento Act

2

- Types of programs for young children: Pre-K, Head Start, Child Care, Preschool Special Education Services, and Early Intervention

# Text to 22333

What percentage of a person's brain is developed by the time they are five years old?

A. 10%

B. 40%

C. 70%

D. 90%

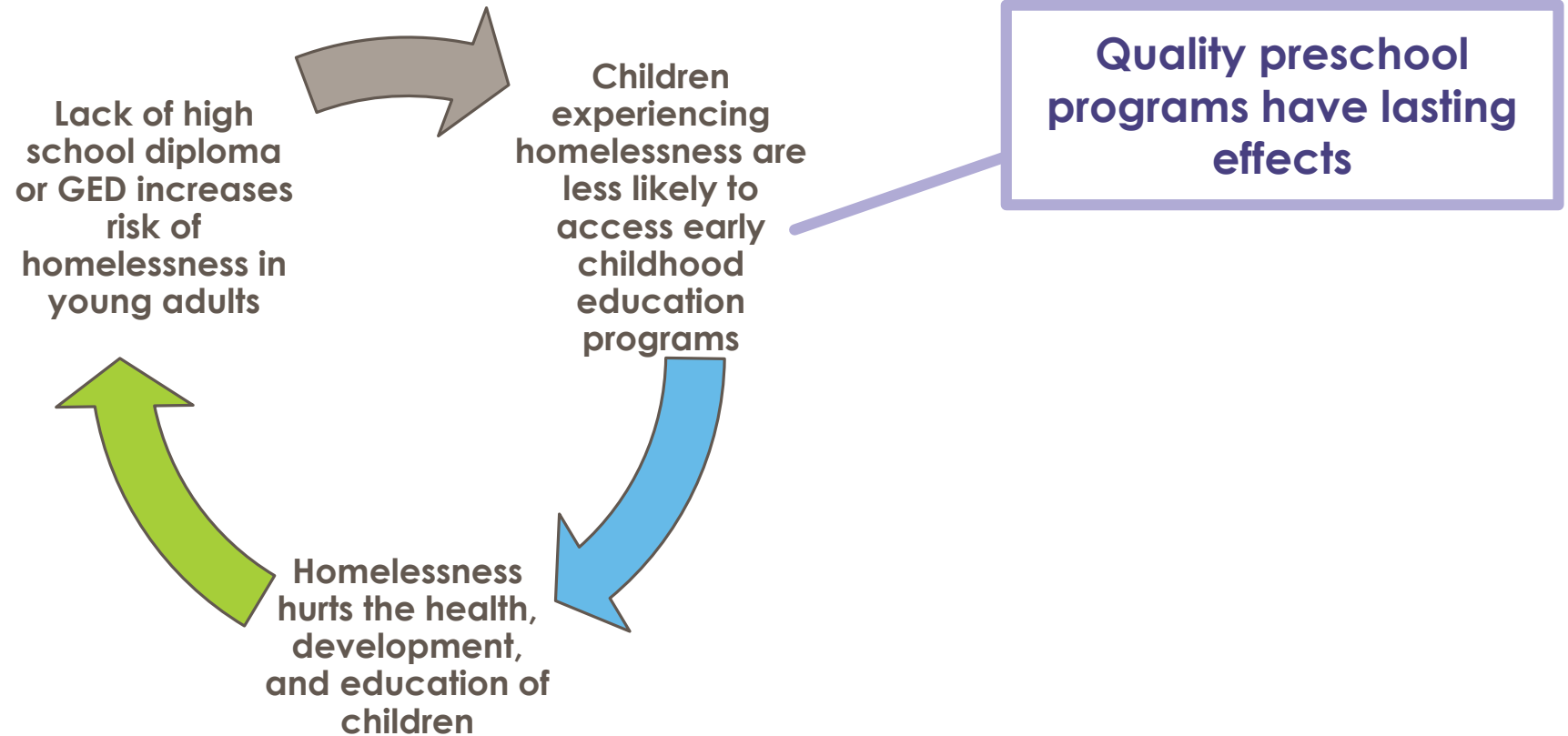


# Prevalence of Family Homelessness

- In NYS, an estimated:
  - 143,743 children under 6 were homeless in 2016-17.  
**1 in 10 children** under 6 experienced homelessness.
  - Of those children, 12,306 (9%) were enrolled in Head Start/Early Head Start or McKinney-Vento-funded ECE programs.

From “Early Childhood Homelessness in the United States: 50-State Profile,” available at:  
<https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/disadv/homeless/early-childhood-homelessness-state-profiles-2019.pdf>

# Education is a Tool that Can Help Disrupt the Poverty Cycle



# Barriers to preschool participation



**No available seats**

**Lack of transportation**

**Lack of awareness**

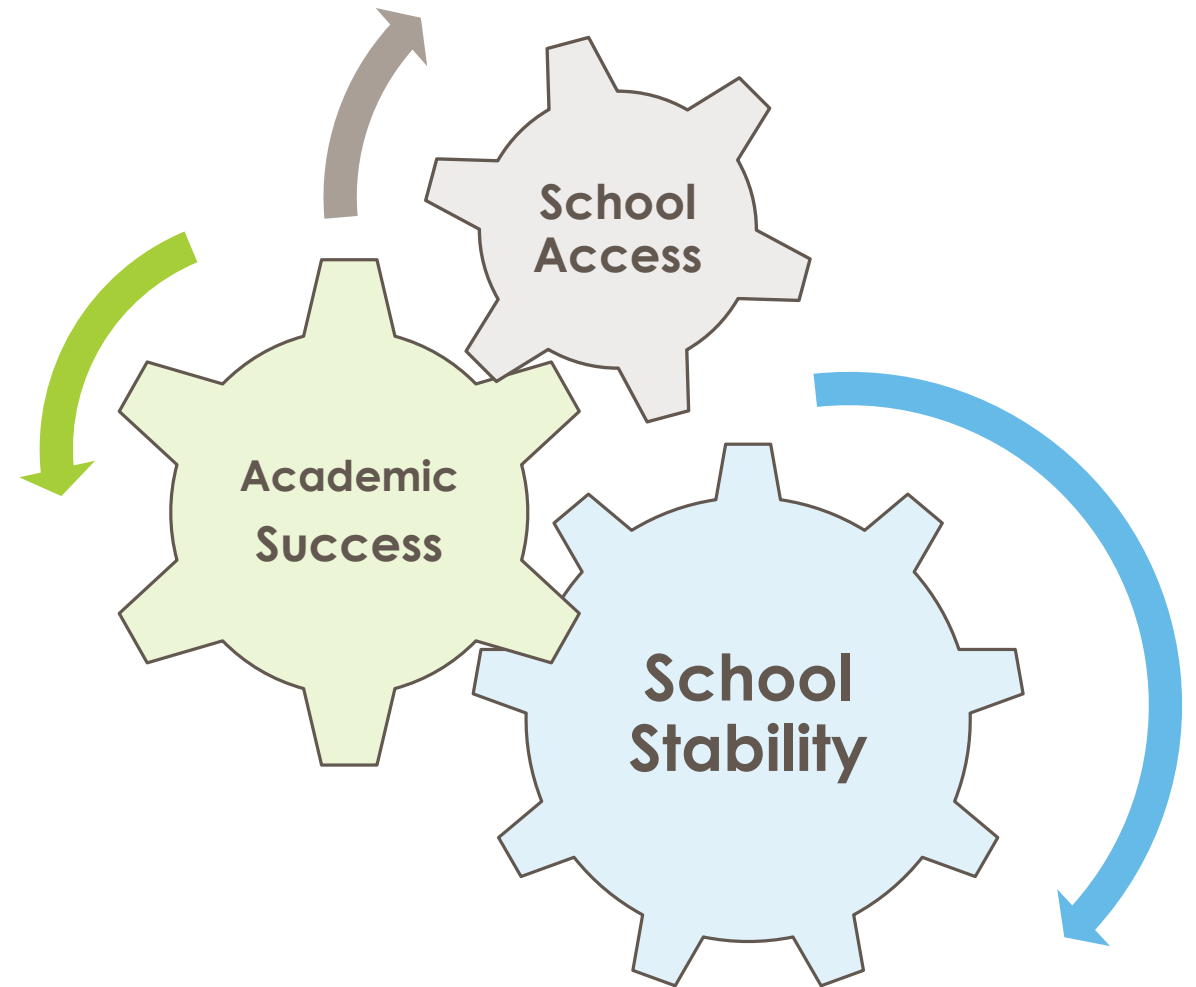
**Separation anxiety**

**Need for full-day coverage**

**Not eligible for a subsidy**

# The McKinney-Vento Act

- Federal law, enacted in 1987
- Reauthorized in 2015 as part of Every Student Succeeds Act
- Liaison in each LEA





# Text to 22333

The McKinney-Vento liaison must identify preschool-aged children who are homeless and ensure that they receive public preschool services for which they are eligible.

True or False?

A. True

B. False



# Liaison Responsibilities

**McKinney-Vento Liaisons** must ensure that young children experiencing homelessness are properly **identified** and **have access to programs for which they are eligible**, including Head Start, early intervention, and other public preschool programs.



# What if a young child moves into temporary housing in another school district?

- If the child was **enrolled in Pre-K**, the child can:
  - Stay in their same pre-k in the school district of origin and **receive transportation** or
  - Transfer to a local pre-k if space is available or request for extra seat can be made.
- If the child was **NOT enrolled in Pre-K**, the child can enroll in a local pre-k if space is available.
- **Liaison** must refer family to pre-k and other local programs for which the child may be eligible, including Head Start (3-5), Early Head Start (birth-2), Early Intervention (birth-2), and preschool special education (3-5).



# Text to 22333

Transportation to pre-k  
must be provided to all  
children who are  
homeless.

True or False?



# Text to 22333

Transportation to the school of origin must be provided to children who are homeless even if the pre-k is in a community-based organization or a Head Start.

True or False?



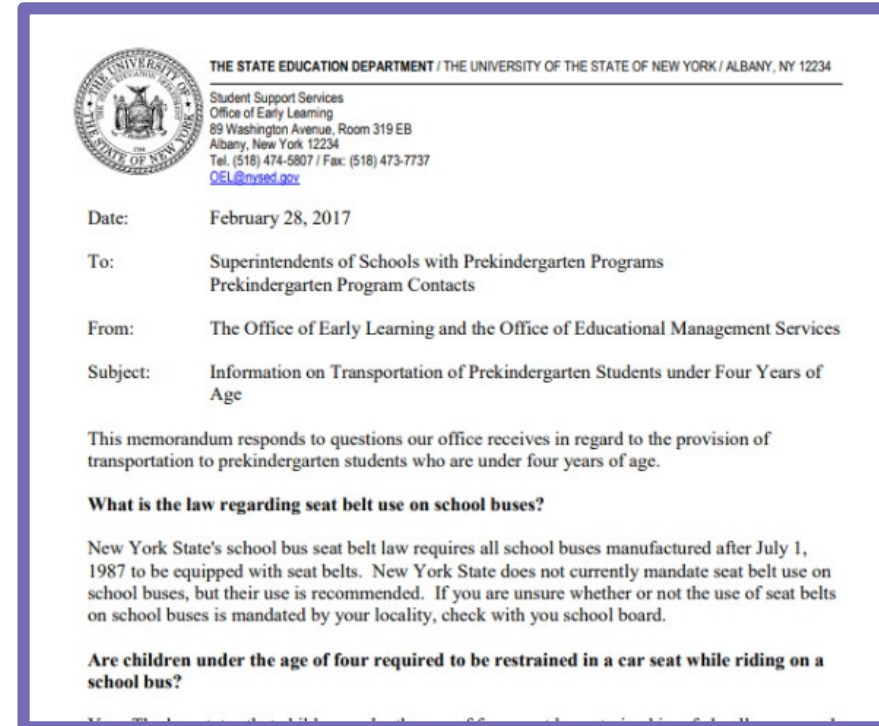


# Transportation to School of Origin

- Any child who attends a district-administered preschool education program is entitled to **transportation to his/her school of origin** if they become homeless.<sup>1</sup>
  - This includes children who move outside the school district.
  - This pertains to all temporarily housed children attending district-administered preschools, even if the district does not provide transportation to other preschool-age children.
- **School district of origin** is the district in which the child was residing when the child became homeless if the child was eligible to **apply, register, or enroll in public preschool or kindergarten**.<sup>2</sup>

1: Education Law §3209(1)(i); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(1)(ix); see also 42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(3)(I)

2: Education Law §3209(1)(c); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(1)(viii)



Field Memo: [Information on Transportation of PreK Students Under 4](#)

# Agenda

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- The importance of early childhood education and the role of the McKinney-Vento Act

2

- Types of programs for young children: Pre-K, Head Start, Child Care, Preschool Special Education Services, and Early Intervention

# Early Care and Education Programs

## What type of programs are available in my community?

- Program types determine whether children experiencing homelessness are categorically eligible for services, prioritized for enrollment, and/or covered under the McKinney-Vento Act, Head Start regulations, or other relevant regulations.

### Types of Programs:

- **Pre-K:** children 4 years old (born in 2016 for 2020-21 school year)
- **Head Start:** children ages 3 to 5 years old / **Early Head Start:** children under 3 years old
- **Child Care:** children under 13 years old
- **Early intervention** and **preschool special education services** may be provided at any of these programs. There are also separate preschool special education schools.



# Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K)

# Pre-K Overview

- Free, half-day and full-day programs
- Located in public schools or community-based organizations (CBOs)
- Most but not all districts have Pre-K programs
- **Eligibility:** Open to all 4-year olds (children born in 2016 are eligible for SY 2020-21)
- Registration for pre-k starts in the late winter or spring



# Housing Questionnaire

- Housing Questionnaire should be completed for:
  - all children seeking enrollment in pre-k (public schools and community-based organizations)
  - Any child in a pre-k program who changes addresses
- Districts are required to report to State Education Dep't on housing status of all children in pre-k programs

**NOTE TO SCHOOLS/LEAS:** Please assist students and families filling out this form. The form should be included at the top page of registration materials that the district shares with families. Do not simply include this form in the registration packet, because if the student qualifies as residing in temporary housing, the student is not required to submit proof of residency and other required documents that may be part of the registration packet.

## HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of LEA: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Gender:  Male  Female Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year (preschool-12) (optional)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The answer you give below will help the district determine what services you or your child may be able to receive under the McKinney-Vento Act. Students who are protected under the McKinney-Vento Act are entitled to immediate enrollment in school even if they don't have the documents normally needed, such as proof of residency, school records, immunization records, or birth certificate. Students who are protected under the McKinney-Vento Act may also be entitled to free transportation and other services.

Where is the student currently living? (Please check one box.)

- In a shelter
- With another family or other person because of loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship (sometimes referred to as "doubled-up")
- In a hotel/motel
- In a car, park, bus, train, or campsite
- Other temporary living situation (Please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

# Immediate Enrollment in Pre-K Programs



# Text to 22333

If a pre-k program is full, a child in temporary housing cannot enroll there.

True or False?

A. True

B. False



# Pre-K Enrollment Barriers

Pre-K programs are often full when families change school districts.

Pre-K programs often have long waitlists, which create barriers for children moving to different locations throughout the school year.

# Enrolling in Pre-k Classroom that is “full”

- **Pre-K Class-size:**

- Up to 18 children = 2 staff members
- 19 or 20 students = 3 staff members
- 21 students = 3 staff members + class-size Variance from State Ed

- **Additional staff member to accommodate 19 or 20 children:**

- Speak with Pre-K Coordinator
- Explore:
  - Pre-K funds
  - Title I funds
  - McKinney-Vento grant funds



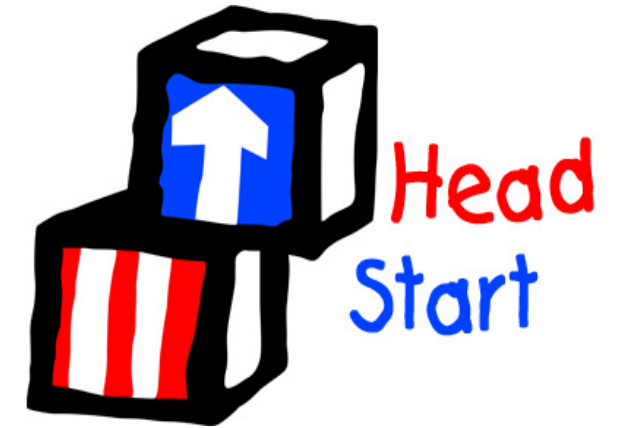


# Class-Size Variances

- Program should fill out the **Request for Prekindergarten Class Size Variance form**.
- Email Variance Requests to the State Education Department's **Office of Early Learning:** [OEL@nysed.gov](mailto:OEL@nysed.gov)
- For questions, call the Office of Early Learning: (518) 474-5807
- More info about class-size variances to accommodate a child in temporary housing is included in the NYSED Field Memo, [District-Administered Pre-K Programs for Children in Temporary Housing](#)



# Head Start and Early Head Start



# Text to 22333

**Children who are homeless must show proof of immunization before enrolling in Head Start programs.**

True or False?

- A. True
- B. False

# Head Start and Early Head Start

- Free educational and family support program designed to serve low-income children ages 3-5 (Head Start) or under 3 (Early Head Start).
- Goal to increase school readiness.
- Offers medical, dental, nutritional, adult educational services, and other services to families.
- Children who are homeless are **eligible** for Head Start and Early Head Start and must **be prioritized for enrollment**.
  - Children who are homeless must be allowed to participate while parents are given reasonable time to get documents needed for enrollment (for example, immunization records).
- Children who attend LEA-administered Head Start programs and become homeless are entitled to transportation to their Head Start program (school of origin).
- Head Start programs must gather and report data on the number of children in temporary housing who are enrolled in the program.



# Determining Housing Status: Housing Questionnaire

- Use the Head Start Housing Questionnaire for **all children** who apply to determine who might be temporarily housed.
- Get **sample questions** to ask parents from the Determining Eligibility Issue Brief

[INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF HEAD START PROGRAM/SITE or PROGRAM LETTERHEAD]

## HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last First Middle

Gender:  Male  Female Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Month Day Year

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE TO PARENTS:**

Children who are living in temporary housing can enroll in and begin attending Head Start programs right away, **even if they don't have the documents normally needed** for enrollment (such as proof of address/residency, immunization records, or birth certificate). Parents of children in temporary housing must be given reasonable time to hand in these documents. In the meantime, the children can enroll and participate. Children who are living in temporary housing also get **priority for enrollment**.

The answer you give below will help the Head Start program determine whether your child is in temporary housing and eligible for these benefits.

**Where is your child currently living?** (Please check one box.)

- With another family or other person because of a loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason (also called temporarily living "doubled-up")
- In a shelter
- In a hotel or motel
- In a car, park, bus or train station, or campsite
- Other temporary living situation (Please describe): \_\_\_\_\_
- In permanent housing

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Print name of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**NOTE TO HEAD START PROGRAM:**

If you have determined that the child is living in temporary housing (homeless), complete the Head Start Eligibility Verification form, available here: <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/standards/pi/2010/hs-eligibility-verification-form.pdf>.

# Tip Sheet for Head Start Programs

- Tip Sheet has information about recruiting, identifying, and enrolling children in temporary housing in Head Start.



## Serving Children in Temporary Housing A Tip Sheet for Head Start Programs

**Did you know?** Children in temporary housing are half as likely to participate in early childhood education

### Which children are considered temporarily housed (homeless)?

- Children are considered temporarily housed or homeless if they are living:
  - With another family or other person because of a loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason (also called temporarily living "doubled-up");
  - In a shelter;
  - In a hotel or motel; or
  - In a car, park, bus or train station, or campsite.
- For more examples of homeless situations under the McKinney-Vento Act, see <https://nysteachs.org/topics/mckinney-vento-eligibility/>

### What protections do children in temporary housing have?

- **All are eligible and entitled to priority enrollment.** All children living in temporary housing are eligible for Head Start and don't have to prove income eligibility. Also, they must receive priority enrollment, such as preferred access to available slots and preferential placement on waiting lists (see below for more ideas).
- **Enrollment without records.** At the time of enrollment, families are **not** required to provide:
  - proof of immunization records (parents have up to 14 days or 30 days if they are coming from out-of-state to get the records under Public Health Law 2164(7)(a));
  - proof of residency/address;
  - birth certificates/proof of age, or other documentation;
  - medical statement/physical (the program should submit a waiver OCFs Form 4887, [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/Forms/Dwy\\_Care/InpForms/OCFS\\_4887%20Revised%20for%20Waiver.doc](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/Forms/Dwy_Care/InpForms/OCFS_4887%20Revised%20for%20Waiver.doc); see instructions in OCFs Policy Statement #17-1, <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/policies/17-1.pdf>).Programs must give families a reasonable amount of time to hand in these documents and allow children to enroll in the meantime.
- **Transportation.** If a child is enrolled in a Head Start administered by a school district and becomes homeless, the school district must transport the child back to the Head Start. **NYC:** Parents can get a free MetroCard to take their children to Head Start. Contact the NYC Department of Education's Students in Temporary Housing Program: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/special-situations/students-in-temporary-housing>

### What should Head Start programs do to recruit children in temporary housing (homeless)?

- **Step 1. Conduct outreach to:**
  - **McKinney-Vento Liaisons** in the local school districts. For contact information, see <https://nysteachs.org/tea-liaisons/>. The liaisons can refer younger siblings of school-age children in temporary housing and give you other ideas about how to reach families in temporary housing.
  - **Shelters.** Ask the Director of Temporary Assistance in your local Department of Social Services for contact information for local shelters: <https://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/dss.asp> and contact local domestic violence shelters: <https://www.nyscadv.org/find-help/program-directory.html>.
- **Step 2. Prioritize enrollment** by revising your program's **Selection Criteria** to award more points to children in temporary housing. Be sure to involve your **Policy Council** (or DAPC).
- **Step 3. Set aside seats** for children in temporary housing. Programs get an additional month to fill any seats they reserve for children in temporary housing. For more information see, <http://mashy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Reserving-Slots-in-Head-Start-for-Homeless-Children-final.pdf> and Head Start Program Performance Standard 1302.15(c).

### How can Head Start Programs identify and verify a child's eligibility as homeless?

- **Step 1. Identify** children who may be in temporary housing (homeless):
  - Use a **Housing Questionnaire** for all children who apply to your program to figure out who may be living in temporary housing: <https://nysteachs.org/resources/housing-questionnaire-head-start/>
  - Use this list of sample questions when talking to parents or caregivers about their living situations: [https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Ident\\_elig.pdf](https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Ident_elig.pdf)
- **Step 2. Gather documentation** about the child's temporary housing:
  - Written documentation from a homeless service provider, school personnel, or other service agency that indicates a child is experiencing homelessness;
  - Information gathered on enrollment or application forms (for example, the Housing Questionnaire);
  - Notes from an interview conducted by program staff; OR
  - Statement signed by the parent that his/her child is in temporary housing (for example, the Housing Questionnaire).
- **Step 3. Verification by staff.** Use the Head Start Eligibility Verification form: <https://ecthc.otsa.cths.gov/policies/2008-head-start-eligibility-verification-form>
- **Remember! A child's housing information should be kept confidential to the maximum extent possible.** This information should only be shared with Head Start staff members who need the information to make sure that the child's needs are met in the Head Start program. Staff can only speak to others to verify the family's living situation if the parent has given consent.

### Questions?

- New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center for Homeless Students (NYS-TEACHS), (800) 388-2014, [www.nysteachs.org](http://www.nysteachs.org)
- Patty Persell, NYS Head Start Collaboration Director, [patricia.persell@ccf.ny.gov](mailto:patricia.persell@ccf.ny.gov)

Rev. 2/12/19



# Text to 22333

Head Start programs  
must guarantee spots to  
preschoolers who are  
homeless.

**True or False?**

- A. True
- B. False





# What is *Priority Enrollment*?

- Examples include:

- Revise the Head Start program's *Selection Criteria* to award more points to children in temporary housing
- Ensure children in temporary housing are placed at the top of any waiting list
- Reserve one or more enrollment slots for children experiencing homelessness when a vacancy occurs. ***Under Head Start Regs/Performance Standards, if a seat is reserved for a child who is homeless, the Head Start program has 60 days in which to fill it.***



# Home at Head Start Campaign

- National Office of Head Start announced new campaign in 2019:
  - [Home at Head Start: Helping Families Experiencing Homelessness Access Head Start Services](#)
  - Goal is to enroll 10,000 children who are homeless in Head Start and Early Head Start
- What can you do?
  - **Find** the local Head Start and Early Head Start programs in your community using this [locator](#).
  - **Share** the **Tip Sheet for Head Start Programs**. It has important information about how to better serve children experiencing homelessness.
  - **Refer** parents!



# Child Care

# Child Care

- Subsidized child care from the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)
- Serves children under 13
- Most families must meet income and work requirements to be eligible. Certain low-income families who are homeless who are looking for housing are eligible if funding is available.
- Child care providers must provide grace period for children who are homeless to get needed documents, including immunization records, and allow children who are homeless to receive services in the mean time
- **Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs)** provide information to parents and others about available preschool programs and child care resources.



# Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education Services

# Text to 22333

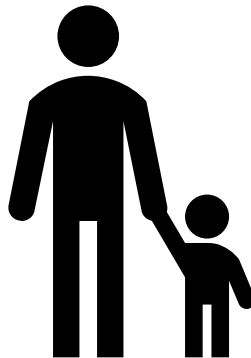
Approximately 45% of preschoolers living in shelters have at least one major developmental delay.

True or False?



# Young children who are homeless

- Approximately:
  - 75% - at least one major developmental delay
  - 40% - two or more major developmental delays
  - 35% - emotional or behavioral problems





# Children with Disabilities

- Early Intervention and preschool special education services address delays in one of five areas:
  - Cognitive
  - Communication
  - Physical/Motor
  - Social/Emotional
  - Adaptive/Self-Help
- **Early Intervention** programs: children ages **birth– up to 3 yrs old**
- **Preschool Special Education**: children ages **3-5**



# Early Intervention

- Free program for children ages birth–up to 3 run by the county Early Intervention Office
- Examples of services:
  - Occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy
  - Health, nursing, or nutrition services
  - Psychological or social work services
  - Family training, counseling, respite
  - Service coordination
  - Special instruction
  - Transportation
  - Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
- [List of County Early Intervention Offices](#)

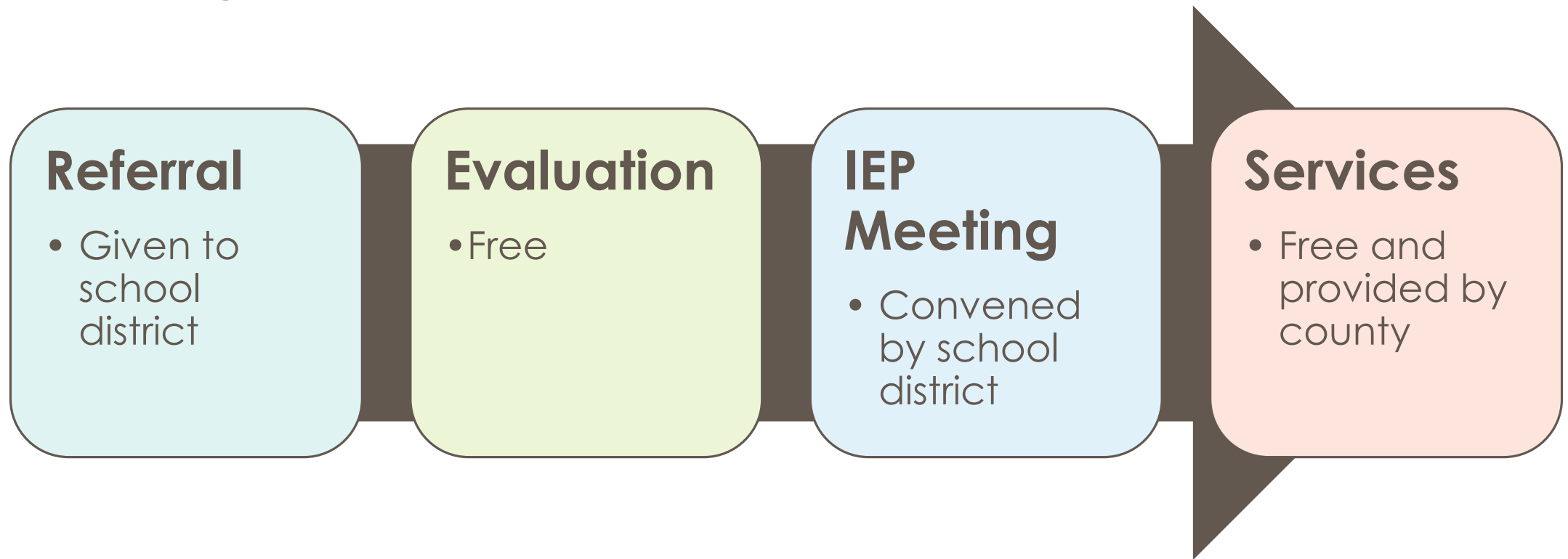


# Preschool Special Education

- Administered by schools districts for children ages 3-5, and the services are provided by the county
- Examples of services:
  - Speech and language therapy
  - Occupational therapy
  - Physical therapy
  - Counseling (play therapy)
  - Parent training
  - School health services
  - SEIT: Special Education Itinerant Teacher
  - Special class in an integrated setting (half-day or full-day)
  - Special class (half-day or full-day)



# Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE)







## Helpful Resources

What types of early childhood ed programs are available in my community?

[Early Care and Education Services in New York State for Young Children Experiencing Homelessness \(Feb 2019\)](#)

### Includes:

- Ages served
- Info about Pre-K, Head Start & Early HS, Child Care, Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education Services
- Eligibility and relevant information for children who are homeless
- Website/Contact Info



# Let's Dive In!

## Description of Programs Pages 2-4

## Customizable Chart Pages 5-6

### Early Care and Education Services in New York State for Young Children Experiencing Homelessness



#### BACKGROUND

Did you know that participation in quality early care and education are especially helpful for families experiencing homelessness?

High-quality early learning programs are very beneficial for young children experiencing housing instability; such programs stimulate cognitive development and readiness for school. They also provide stability to daily life and reduce the stresses of child care on families experiencing homelessness.

Did you know that children who are homeless are less likely to participate in early childhood programs than children who are permanently housed?

It's true. That's why it's critical that professionals working with families experiencing homelessness share information about available early care and education services and help them access those services. This resource will help you identify the early care and education services in your community and enable you to better connect parents who are homeless with the highest quality services for their young children.

#### WHO IS CONSIDERED TEMPORARILY HOUSED OR HOMELESS?\*

Children living in many different types of temporary situations are considered homeless under federal law, including:

- **Shelters.** This includes stand-alone shelters as well as situations where the local department of social services arranges for a family to temporarily stay in a motel, hotel, or an apartment (referred to as a cluster site in NYC).
- **Temporarily staying with friends or relatives because the family lost their housing** (also referred to as "doubled-up").

For more information about which families may be considered homeless, contact NYS-TEACHS at 800-388-2014 or visit [www.nysteachs.org](http://www.nysteachs.org).

#### WHO SHOULD USE THIS DOCUMENT

- Child care providers
- Head Start and Early Head Start programs
- Local departments of social services
- Shelter providers
- Parents
- Staff from libraries, food pantries, and other organizations working with families experiencing homelessness.

- School district McKinney-Vento liaisons and other school district staff working with families in temporary housing (registration staff, guidance counselors, etc.)

Many of the people listed above are required to help children in temporary housing access early care and education programs, and this document can help them meet these responsibilities. For example:

- **SCHOOL DISTRICT MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISONS** are required to ensure that young children experiencing homelessness have access to early care and education programs including Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Intervention, preschool special education, and Pre-K.
- **HEAD START PROGRAMS AND CERTAIN CHILD CARE PROVIDERS** must prioritize children who are homeless for enrollment.
- **CERTAIN SHELTER PROVIDERS KNOWN AS TIER II SHELTERS** must make sure that families have access to child care so that parents can look for work, look for permanent housing, attend school, or attend a training program.
- **FAMILY SHELTER PROVIDERS AND LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES** must refer infants and toddlers suspected of having or at risk of having a developmental delay or disability for an evaluation for Early Intervention services.

### EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION RESOURCES

Know the early care and education infrastructure in your community and access the highest quality services for young children experiencing homelessness!



#### Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Agencies

**Ages served:** n/a  
**Services:** CCR&Rs provide information and referrals to parents/caretakers about where to find and how to choose a child care provider. Also, they provide information, training, and support to child care providers.  
**Eligibility:** Anyone can contact a CCR&R for information about child care.  
**Serving children who are homeless:** Provides information and trainings about the definition of "homeless" and the requirements early care and education programs have related to serving children who are homeless.  
**Website:** <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/referralagencies.asp>

#### Child Care Subsidies

**Ages served:** 6 weeks old up to 13 years old (for 19 for children with disabilities).  
**Services:** Child care subsidies help parents/caretakers pay for some or all of the cost of child care services. Families receiving a child care subsidy can choose any eligible child care provider, such as: Day Care Centers, Small Day Care Centers, Family Day Care Homes, Group Family Day Care Homes, School-Age Child Care Programs, or Non-regulated/Informal Providers (typically, home-based care for one to two children in addition to the provider's children). For more information about the different types of child care see: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/brochure.asp>.  
**Eligibility:** Parents must meet income eligibility requirements and may need to meet work/school/training/counseling participation requirements, if any (depends on the county). Contact your local department of social services to find out the eligibility requirements in your county. NOTE: There may be a waiting list for child care subsidies.

**Serving children who are homeless:**

- **No fees:** Parents who are homeless typically do not have to pay any fees. (Parents who are homeless must pay a fee if they choose child care that costs more than the market rate.)
- **Grace period for records:** Parents have up to 2 weeks from the day the child starts attending child care to get immunization records to the child care provider. If the parent does not have a copy of the child's annual physical (medical statement) when they enroll, the child care provider should submit a waiver to OCFS to give the parent more time to get the annual physical. The child can receive child care services while the parent is getting the records.
- **Outreach:** Contact your local CCR&R and department of social services to learn about outreach to families who are homeless.
- **Priority enrollment:** Families who are homeless may get priority for child care subsidy to the extent that the local department of social services has funds available. For more information see your local child care plan: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/plans/plans.asp>.
- **Enhanced rate:** Local departments of social services pay licensed child care providers at least 5% more for caring for a child who is homeless.

**Website:** <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/localdss.asp>  
 For NYC see: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ocfs/early-care/find-child-care.page> and <https://access.nyc.gov/>

#### Head Start and Early Head Start

**Ages served:** Infants and toddlers under 3 and women who are pregnant (Early Head Start), and 3-5-year-olds (Head Start) and their families.

Program	Serves birth-3 years old	Serves 3-5 years old	Statewide list of local/county contacts	What is this program called in my community?
<b>Child Care Resource &amp; Referral (CCR&amp;R)</b> (Provides information and resources only)	X	X	<a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/referralagencies.asp">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/referralagencies.asp</a>	
<b>Child Care Subsidies</b>	X	X	<a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/localdss.asp">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/localdss.asp</a>	
<b>Head Start/ Early Head Start</b>	X (Early Head Start)	X (Head Start)	<a href="https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator">https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator</a>	
<b>Pre-K</b>		X (4-year-olds & in certain school districts programs for 3-year-olds)	<a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/upk/upkdirectory.html">http://www.p12.nysed.gov/upk/upkdirectory.html</a> For NYC, contact Pre-K Outreach: 718-935-2009	
<b>Early Intervention</b>	X		<a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants_children/early_intervention/county_eip.htm">https://www.health.ny.gov/community/infants_children/early_intervention/county_eip.htm</a>	



# Recruitment Tips for McKinney-Vento Liaisons

- **Work closely with the district's Pre-K Coordinator** to advertise enrollment dates for pre-K
- **Reach out to families** experiencing homelessness and ask about preschool-age children
  - For example, include a question on the Housing Questionnaire about preschool-age children in the family
- **Conduct outreach** for Pre-K programs in the community.



# Key Takeaways

- Children who go to quality early childhood education programs are **better prepared for kindergarten** AND **more likely to graduate from high school**, hold a job, and have higher earnings.
- **Liaisons must identify young children who are homeless and help their parents enroll them** in pre-k, Head Start, early intervention, and other preschool programs administered by the LEA.
- Children who are homeless are entitled to **priority enrollment in Head Start and subsidized child care programs**.
- Children who are homeless are entitled to **immediate enrollment in Pre-K, Head Start, and subsidized child care programs (space permitting)**.
- Children attending pre-k and other LEA-administered preschool programs are entitled to **transportation to their school of origin** if they become homeless.

# NYS-TEACHS

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