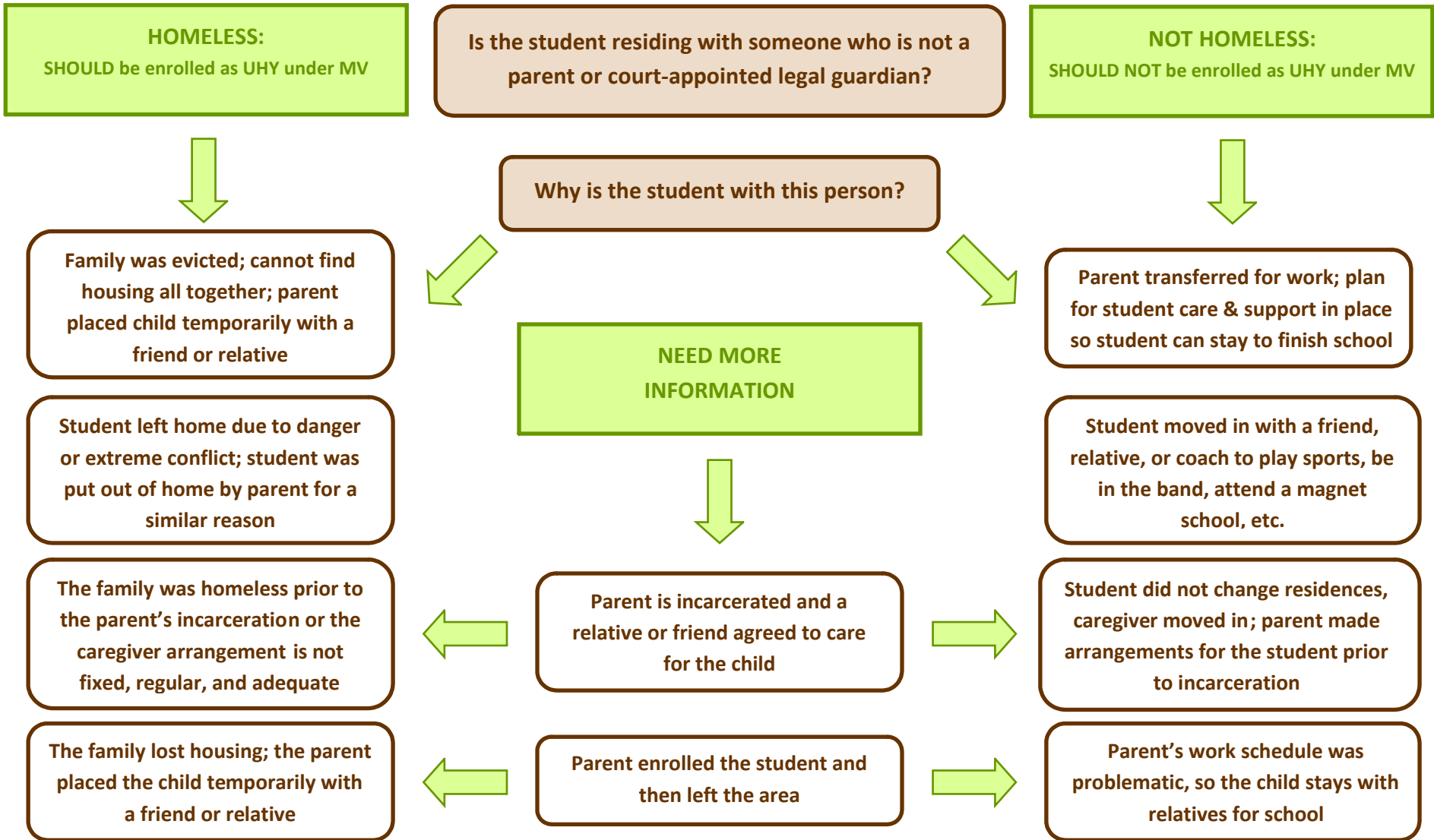




## Unaccompanied Youth Eligibility Flowchart



**NOTE:** The information contained in this flowchart is intended to serve as a general guide. All McKinney-Vento eligibility determinations should be made on a case-by-case basis weighing the individual circumstances of each student. To be eligible for McKinney-Vento services as an unaccompanied homeless student, the student must meet the criteria of both homeless and unaccompanied.

## Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility of Unaccompanied Youth

### 1. Is the student residing with someone who is not his/her parent or court appointed guardian?

If yes, continue to the next question. If no, the student may be homeless, but is not unaccompanied.

### 2. Does the student meet the definition of homeless under McKinney-Vento?

These are sample questions that can be asked to determine McKinney-Vento eligibility. Reminder: *homeless* is defined as “lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”

- Why is the student living with someone who is not his/her parent/guardian?
- Is the student placed in this residence as a temporary plan for housing because the entire family became homeless?
- Did the student leave home because of severe family conflict?
- How long can the student continue living where he or she is?
- Does the student have his or her own space/bedroom in the residence?
- Does the student have adequate privacy?
- Can the student come and go as needed?
- Where would the student live if not able to live there?
- What are the expectations of the student while staying there?

A student who is considered homeless (lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence) and unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) can be registered as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

A student who is not homeless, even though residing with a person other than the parent or court-appointed guardian, does not qualify as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Based on a flowchart provided by Virginia Beach Public Schools