

Supporting Students in Temporary Housing



McKinney-Vento Act: Students Attending Charter Schools*

*in Rest of State, not NYC



Presented By: NYS TEACHS
Thursday, December 12, 2024
9:30am-11:00am



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Webinar Format



- Today's session will be recorded.



- Your microphone will be automatically muted.



- Your camera will be automatically disabled.



- The in-webinar chat will allow you to communicate with the panelists and the host only.



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Housekeeping



- We will launch poll questions periodically throughout the session and ask you to respond to questions in the chat.
- We won't be able to answer questions about specific situations in the chat, but we welcome you to call the Help Line to discuss these issues at 800-388-2014.
- The Help Line is open 24 hours a day. Specialists are available from 9:00am – 5:00pm. If you leave a message, you will be called back by the next business day.
- Following today's webinar, today's recorded session, attachments, and Q&As will be posted/accessible.



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Who Is in the Room?

■ Are you a...

- New McKinney Vento Liaison (1st Year)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (2-4 years)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (5-9 years)
- McKinney Vento Liaison (10+ years)
- Charter School Staff
- Non-Charter School/District Staff



Which region are you from?

- * Western Region
- * Finger Lakes
- * Central Region
- * Southern Tier
- * Mohawk Valley
- * Capital Region
- * Hudson Valley
- * New York City
- * Long Island
- * North Country



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Session Outcomes



By the end of today's webinar, participants will be able to:

- Describe the key provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act and the responsibilities of the liaison.
- Identify the rights of students experiencing temporary housing and the charter school responsibility to ensure those rights.
- Describe the criteria for a student to be eligible for benefits as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Provide the benefits of immediate enrollment and transportation to eligible students.

Today's Agenda



Welcome! Who Is in the Room?



Data on Homelessness



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Key Provisions of McKinney-Vento



Role of the District of Attendance and Transportation



Summary, Resources, and Survey



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Do You See the Child Experiencing Homelessness?

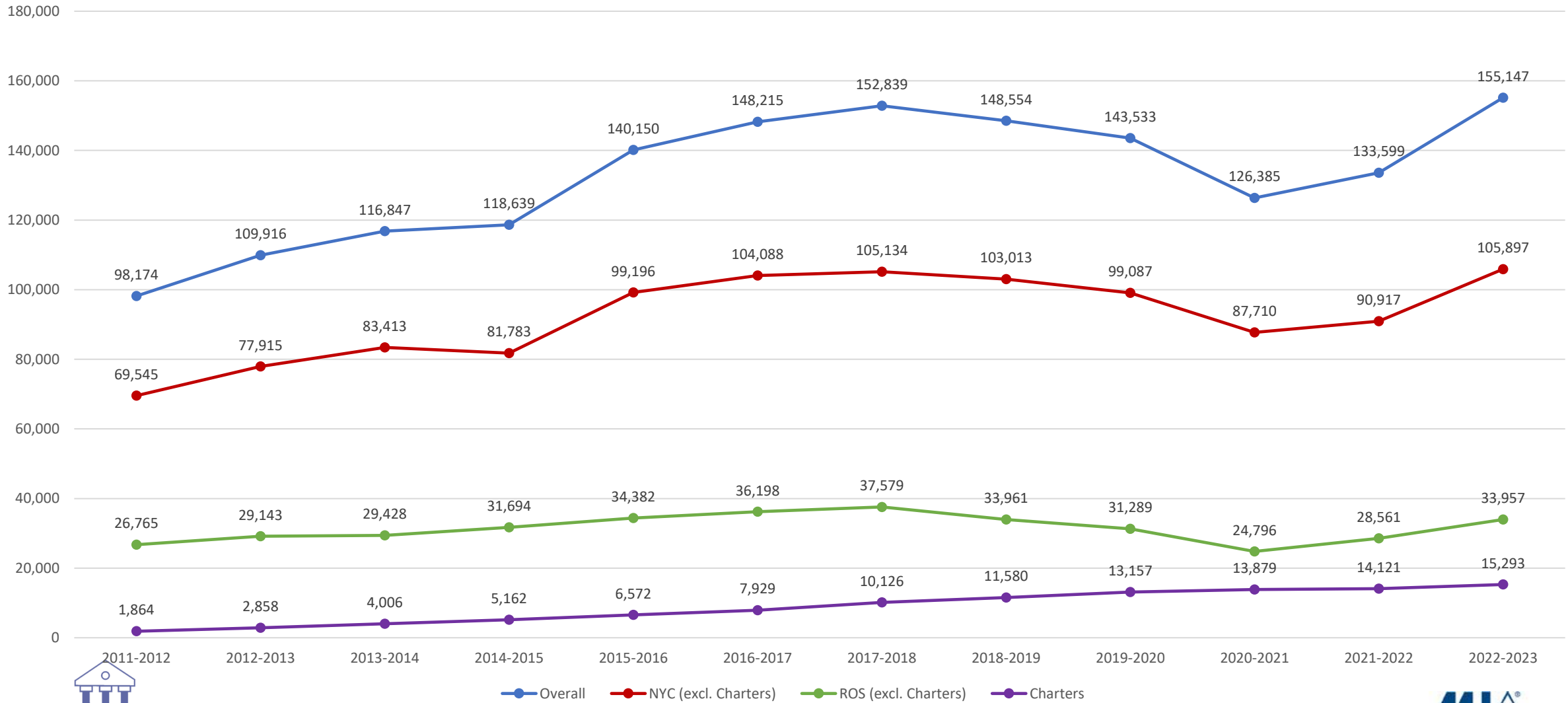
What role do you think charter schools play in supporting students in temporary housing?

Please
respond in
the chat. 😊

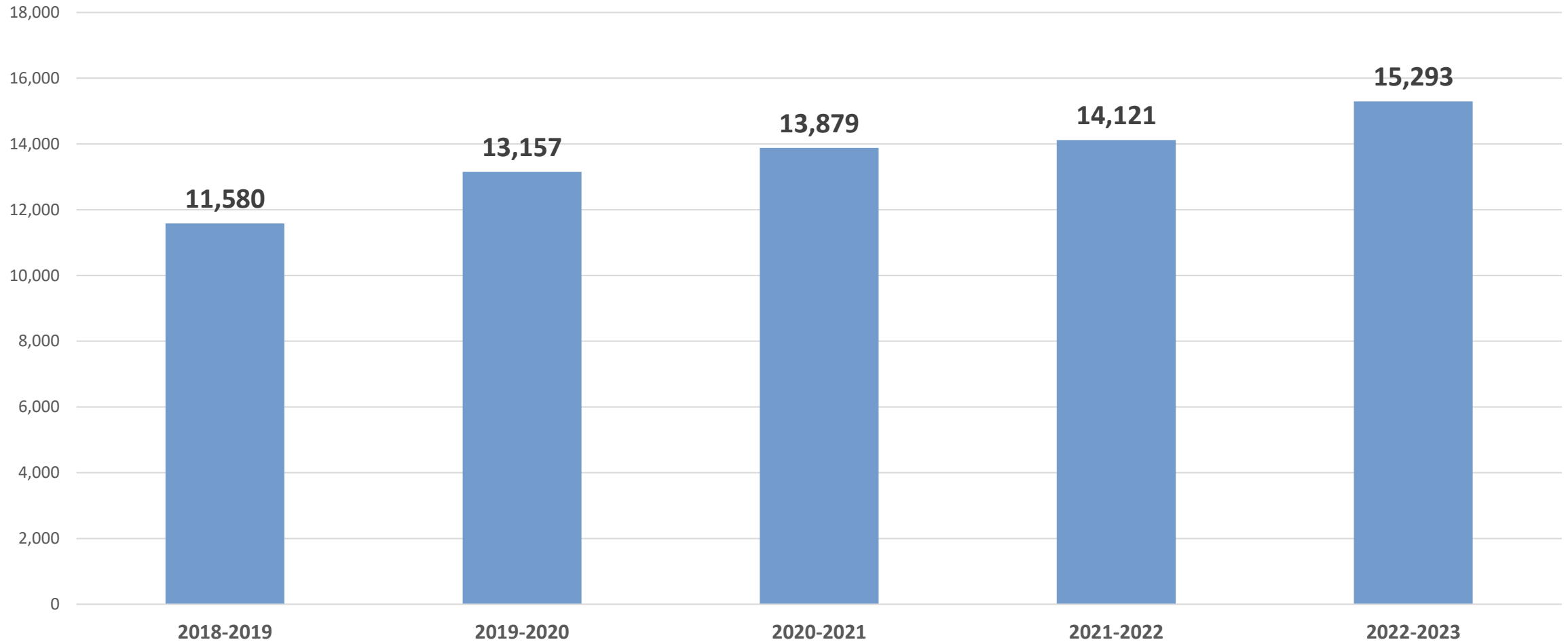


Students Experiencing Homelessness in NY (2011-2023)

Students Experiencing Homelessness in NY (2011-2023)



Students Experiencing Homelessness in Charter Schools in NY



Data Discussion

What observations can you make from looking at the data?

What questions does the data raise?

DATA

Please
respond in
the chat. 😊

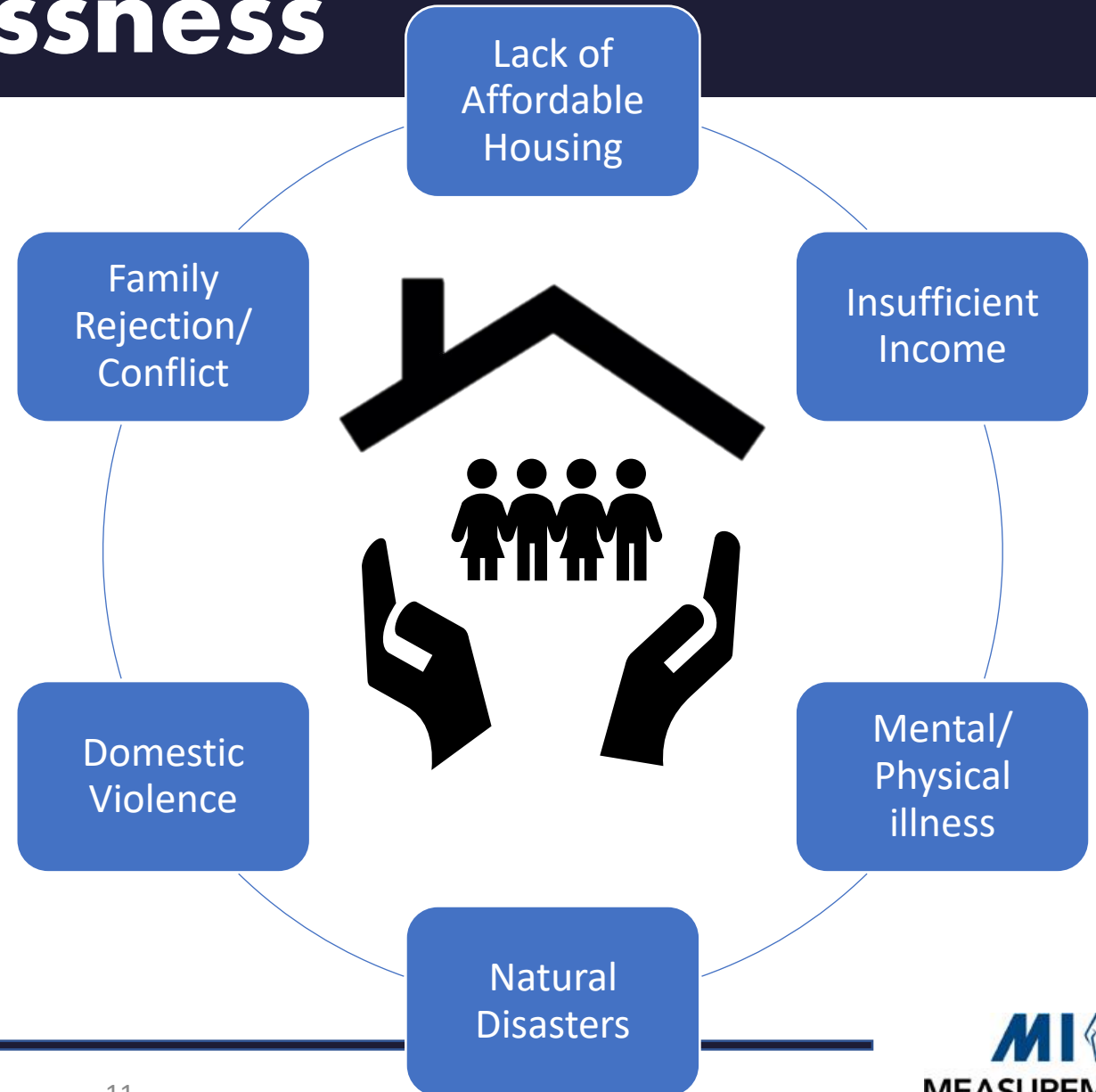


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Causes of Homelessness

What are other potential causes of homelessness?



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Educational Barriers



Lack of **basic** resources like a safe and stable place to live, food, and clothing



Difficulty accessing school, immunization records, other documentation necessary for school enrollment, and school supplies



Challenges finding transportation to enroll with the school registration office or to attend school daily



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Eliminating Barriers to School Success



McKinney-Vento
Homeless Assistance
Act



New York State
Education Law 3209



NYS Commissioner's
Regulations Section
100.2(x)



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McKinney-Vento Act



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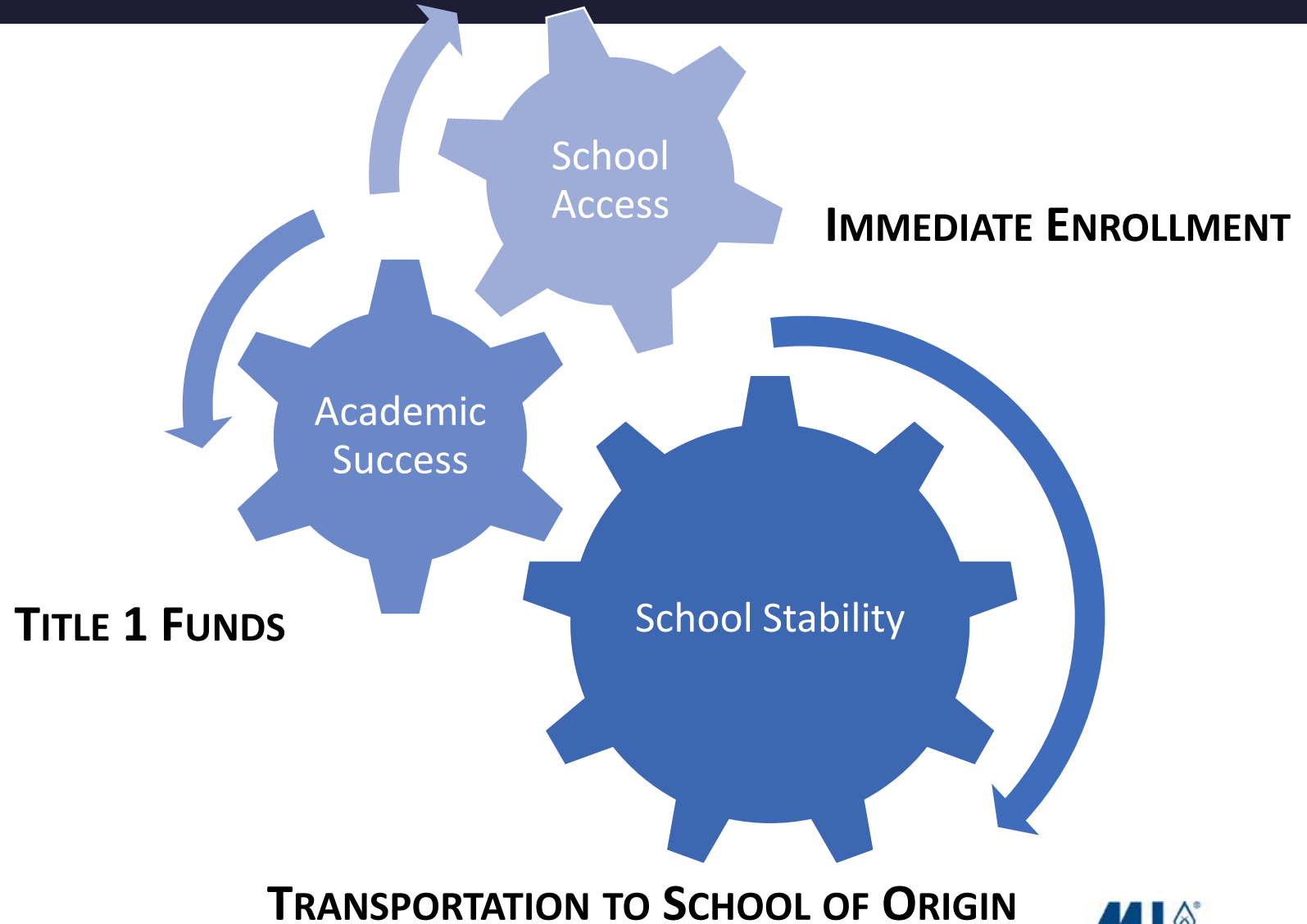
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McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- Federal law established in 1987
- Reauthorized in 2015 as part of ESSA



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LEAs Role to Remove Barriers For...



Enrolling

Enroll in school immediately even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.



Attending

Continue attending the school of origin and receive transportation to and from school.



Succeeding

Equal access to the same free, appropriate public education and related services needed to meet State academic standards.



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Under the McKinney-Vento Act, Charter Schools...

- **Review and revise policies** that act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, and retention of homeless children and youth, including barriers caused by absences. 42 USC §11432(g)(1)(I).
- **Remove barriers** to enrollment in school, which includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities. 42 USC §11432(g)(1)(I)
- Ensure that homeless children and youth are **identified** by school personnel and receive the educational services for which they are eligible. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A)



Under the McKinney-Vento Act, Charter Schools...

- **Provide transportation** to students in temporary housing to help students stay in school. 42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii) & NYS Education Law 3209(4)
- **Enroll** students in temporary housing immediately, even if the student is unable to provide documents typically required for enrollment, such as school records and medical records including immunization records, proof of residency, guardianship papers, birth certificate, or other documents normally needed. Also enroll students in temporary housing even if they missed application or enrollment deadlines during a period of homelessness.
- Designate an appropriate staff person, who also may be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a **local homeless education liaison**. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)

McKinney-Vento Act Requirement

The McKinney-Vento Act requires school districts to designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local homeless education liaison.

The local liaison assists families and district staff with the identification and enrollment of students experiencing temporary housing.



42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)

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

M-V Liaison Responsibilities

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A); US Department of Education Non Regulatory Guidance, Section F, Questions L-3& Q2; 8NYCRR § 100.2 (x)(7)(iii)(a)

McKinney-Vento Act Definition of Homeless

Identification and Eligibility



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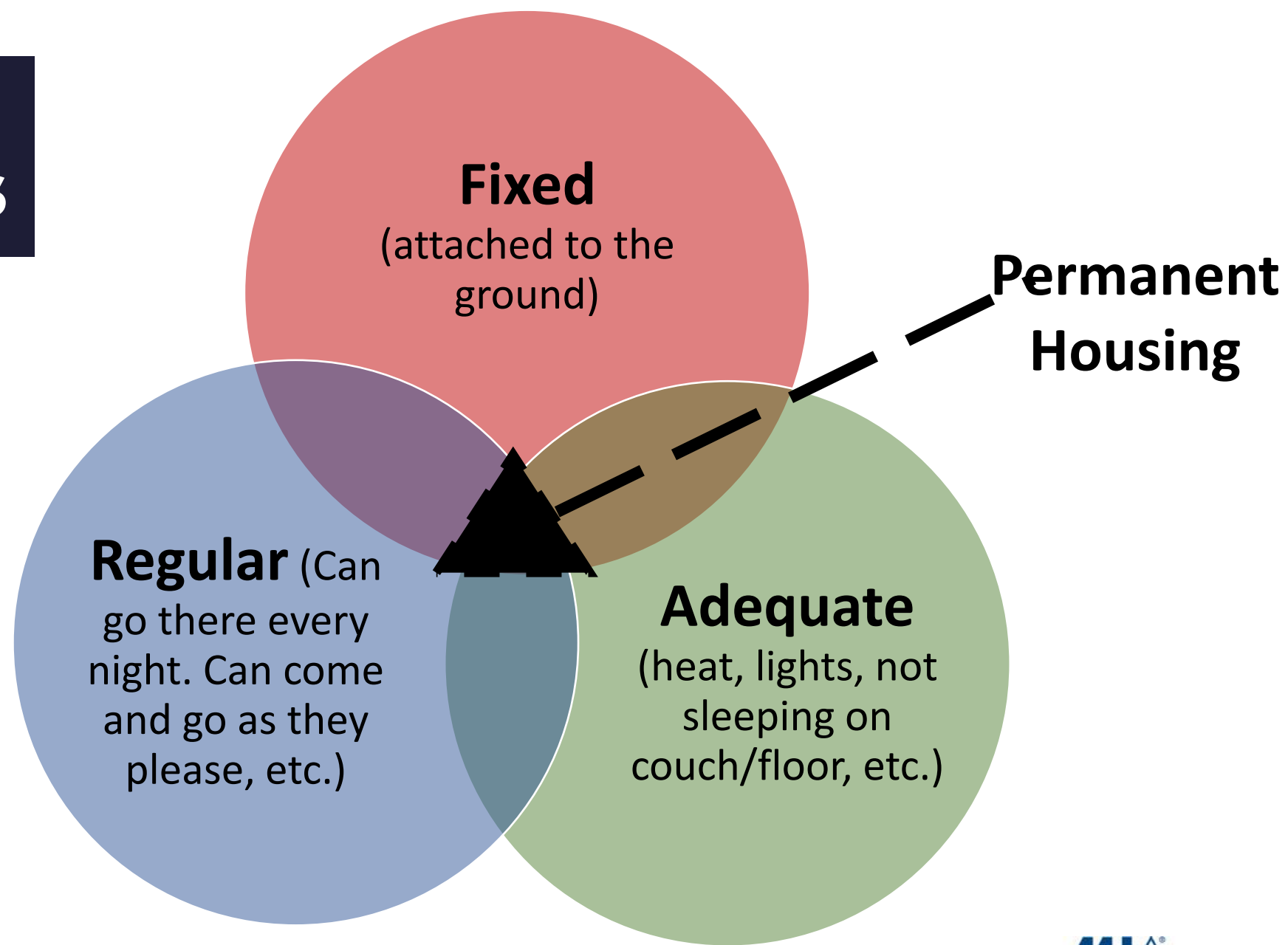
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Definition of Homelessness

The term “homeless child or youth” means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate primary nighttime residence.



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Homelessness: Living Conditions

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for sleeping
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, etc.
- Migratory children living in circumstances described above
- Unaccompanied youth living in circumstances described above

Education Law §3209(1)(a); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(1); see also 42 USC §11434A(2)(B)(i); U.S. DOE's Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question A-2



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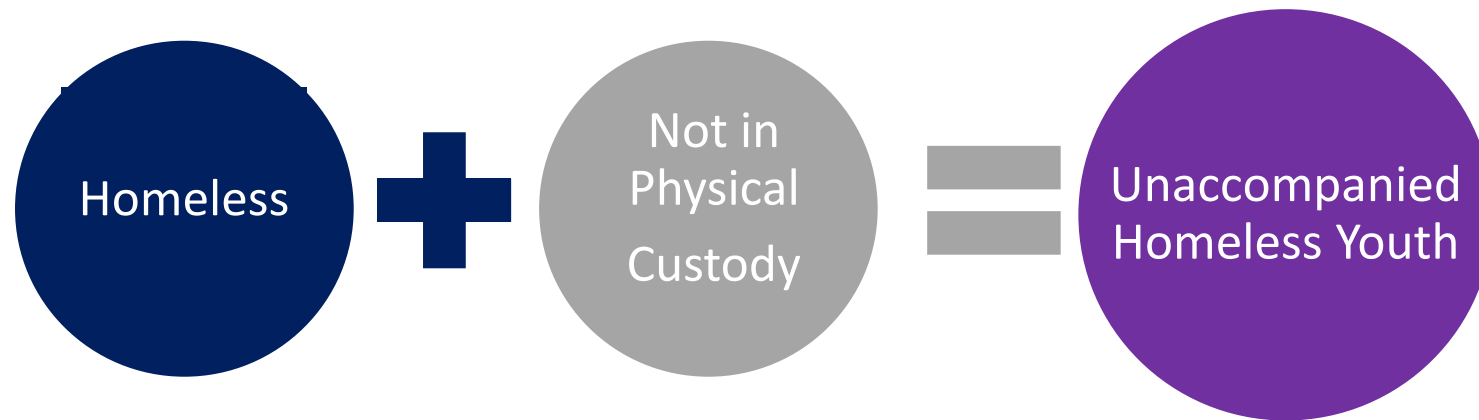


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Definition of an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

An unaccompanied youth is a child or youth that is not in the physical custody of/not living with a parent or guardian.

To be eligible for services under the McKinney-Vento Act, the youth must also meet the definition of homeless.



42 U.S.C. § 11434a[6]; Education Law § 3209[1][a][1][v]; and 8 NYCRR § 100.2[x][1][iii][6]

Scenario #1

There is a family with two children living in a two-bedroom apartment. There is a fire in the apartment, so they move into her parents' five-bedroom home in the next town over. This family's housing is...

- A. Fixed, regular, and adequate
- B. Fixed, regular, but not adequate
- C. Fixed, but not regular or adequate
- D. Fixed, not regular but adequate



Scenario #2



Mom is living with two children in a one-bedroom apartment. The landlord evicts the family, and they have no where to go so they are staying in mom's car. This family's housing is...

- A. Fixed, regular, and adequate
- B. Fixed, regular, but not adequate
- C. Fixed, but not regular or adequate
- D. Not fixed, regular and adequate.



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McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Homelessness = lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence



If any one of these criteria is missing, the student is eligible for McKinney-Vento benefits.



A student may be considered homeless for an unspecified length of time if housing is not fixed, regular and adequate.



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Identification of Students Experiencing Homelessness

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, the local liaison is charged with ensuring that homeless children and youth are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies.

42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(6)(A)(i)



[NYS TEACHS Outreach Materials](#)



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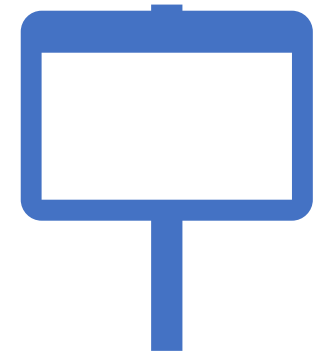
Identification Strategies



Avoid using the word "homeless"



Train school community



Post outreach materials



Coordinate with community agencies



Coordinate with youth services



Use data to inform decisions



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McKinney-Vento Act

School Selection and Enrollment



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School Selection

Local education agencies (LEAs or school districts) must “presume that keeping homeless children and youth in the school of origin is in the child’s or youth’s best interest, to the extent feasible, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied homeless youth) the youth.”

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(B)(i), 2001



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School Selection Options



The school attended when student was last permanently housed.



The school last attended, even if the student was temporarily housed during that time.



The local school where the student is currently temporarily housed.

N.Y. Education Law § 3209(1)(i)

Criteria for Charter School Admissions

McKinney-Vento students:

- Have the same admission criteria as permanently housed students for admission into a charter school.
- Are entitled to immediate enrollment in a charter school, if admissions requirements are met and seats are available.
- Can transfer mid year to a charter school, if permanently housed students may do so.



Housing Questionnaire

- Screening tool is required for all students
- Required at the time of enrollment and change of address

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
 Non-binary

Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Month Day Year

Grade: ____
(preschool-12)

ID#: _____
(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): _____
- In permanent housing

Print name of Parent, Guardian, or

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or



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Who Fills Out The Housing Questionnaire

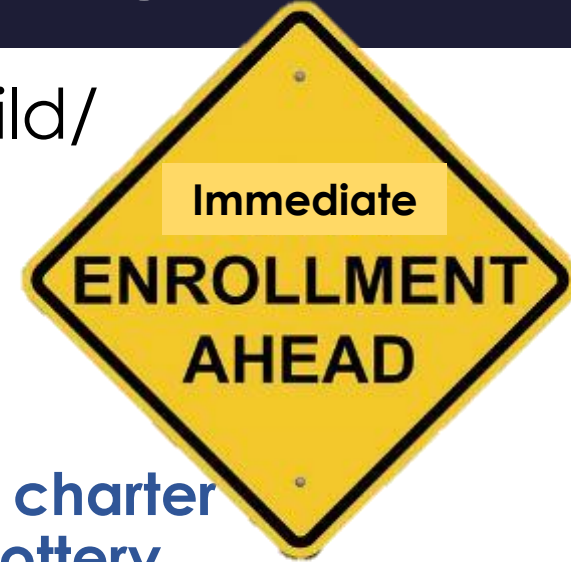
A Housing Questionnaire should be filled out:

1. **FOR** all students enrolling in school and for all students who have a change of address in grades preschool-12 .
2. **BY** the student's parent, person in parental relation or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, by the student directly.



Liaison Facilitates Immediate Enrollment

- Selected school must immediately enroll, even if the child/youth:
 - Does not have records normally needed for enrollment.
 - Has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.



Lotteries: If a student in temporary housing seeks enrollment in a charter school and the lottery application deadline has passed but the lottery has not occurred, the student should be entered into the lottery.

- Enrolling school should contact last school attended for records.
- Liaison must assist child/youth in obtaining any necessary immunizations or other required health records.



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Education Law §3209(2)(f); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(4)(ii); see also 42 USC §11432(g)(3)(C); Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions I-5 & I-6.



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Charter School Lotteries: Geographic Preference

Geographic preference for charter school admissions lotteries is available to students in temporary housing for:

- Any charter school located in the school district where the student was **last permanently housed**. (School District of Origin).
- Any charter school located in the school district **where the student is temporarily residing**. (School District of Current Location).

Please refer to [NYSED Field Memo #03-2010A](#)



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STAC-202 Form



STAC-202: Designation Form

Official Designation form (complete for every M-V student enrolled in your charter school and send a copy to districts listed)

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

Families or an unaccompanied youth must select a designated district of attendance.

Education Law §3209(2)(e); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(3)(i)(b)



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STAC ID

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
STAC/Medicaid Unit
Room EB 25, Education Building
Albany, NY 12234

STAC-202
HOMELESS DESIGNATION
Rev. 11/2022

Designation of School District of Attendance for a Homeless Child

Submitted by: Local Dept of Social Services (DSS) Designated School District of Attendance (PSD)

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM

1. NAME OF CHILD
LAST NAME
FIRST NAME

2. DATE OF BIRTH
MO / DAY / YR

3. GENDER FEMALE
 MALE
 NON-BINARY

4. ML

5. Racial/Ethnic Category of Child (See definitions on reverse side of last page.)
 American Ind or Alaskan Native Asian or Pacific Isl. Black Hispanic White

7. COMPLETE ADDRESS BEFORE CHILD/FAMILY BECAME HOMELESS

8. COMPLETE ADDRESS OF CURRENT LOCATION
DATE CHILD/FAMILY PLACED IN TEMPORARY HOUSING
MONTH DAY YEAR

9. DATE DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE CHOSEN
MONTH DAY YEAR

10. DATE PLACED IN PERMANENT HOUSING
MONTH DAY YEAR

6. GRADE LEVEL FOR WHICH PLACEMENT IS SOUGHT

7A. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE BEFORE BECOMING HOMELESS

7B. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE LAST ENROLLED

8A. NYS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CURRENT LOCATION

9A. NYS DESIGNATED DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE

One of four school districts may be chosen to provide the education component: the school district of attendance before becoming homeless; the school district where last enrolled; the school district of current 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.

11. Check the appropriate box if the designated school district of attendance (9A) is different from the district of attendance before becoming homeless (7A) and from the district of current location (8A).
 District participating in a Regional Placement Plan OR District where last enrolled (7B) if it is different from the district where last permanently housed (7A) and the district of current location (8A).

12. NAME OF PARENT OR PERSON IN PARENTAL RELATIONSHIP
AREA CODE TELEPHONE NUMBER

13. SIGNATURE OF PERSON IN PARENTAL RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD
IT HAS BEEN REPORTED TO ME THAT THIS CHILD IS UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS AND IS THEREFORE ELIGIBLE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES. THE CHILD HAS BEEN ADVISED OF HIS/HER RIGHT TO DESIGNATE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ATTENDANCE. DATE

14. PRINT NAME OF LOCAL DSS OR SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
TITLE

15. SIGNATURE OF LOCAL DSS OR SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
DATE

16. PLACEMENT COUNTY Local DSS use only AREA CODE TELEPHONE NUMBER



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Selecting a District of Attendance

A parent or an unaccompanied homeless youth may select either the district of origin, or the district of current location as the district of attendance.

- If the student was attending the charter school prior to becoming homeless, the district of origin should be designated as the district of attendance to ensure the provision of transportation.
- If the student enrolls in a charter school after becoming homeless, the designation of the district of attendance will depend on factors such as where the student is temporarily living, which district is better suited to provide the transportation, and which district is better suited to provide special education services, if the student has an IEP.

District of Attendance Responsibilities

- ✓ **Payment of tuition to the charter school**
- ✓ **Committee on Special Education (CSE)**
- ✓ **Transportation***

- *Designated school district is not responsible for transportation if:
- School district is not in session (charter school must arrange for transportation).
 - Department of Social Services (DSS) is responsible for transportation.



Completing the STAC-202 Forms

Box 7 Complete Address Prior to Child/Family Becoming Homeless

Box 7A. NYS School District of Attendance Before Becoming Homeless

Box 7B. District Where Last Enrolled

Box 8 Complete Address of Current Location Including Date

Box 8A. NYS School District of Current Location

Box 9 Date District of Attendance Was Chosen

Box 9A. NYS Designated District of Attendance: the district designated

Box 10 Date Placed in Permanent Housing (date the child moved into permanent housing or is no longer eligible as a homeless student)

The STAC Unit needs a signature on the form submitted.



Please remember to include date of birth (DOB) and gender on the form!



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Completing the STAC-202 Form – Charter Schools

The name of the charter school **should not** be entered anywhere on the STAC-202 form. It should be completed as follows:

Box 7A. NYS School District of Attendance Before Becoming Homeless: the student's district of origin should be entered, even if the student has never attended a traditional public school in that district.

Box 8A. NYS School District of Current Location: the school district in which the student is temporarily residing should be listed. Note that, because students may attend charter schools in any district, the student's school district of current location may or may not be the district in which the charter school they are attending is located.

Box 9A. NYS Designated District of Attendance: the district designated by the student's parent (or the youth, if she is unaccompanied) should be listed.



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[NYSED Charter School Guidance Q & A](#)



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McKinney-Vento Act: Transportation



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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 throughout 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.



42 USC § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii), 11432(g)(3)(A)(i)(II); Education Law § 3209(1), 3209(2)(c), 3209(2)(d), 3209(4)(i); 8 NYCRR §§ 100.2(x)(2), 100.2(x)(6)(iv); Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question J-5.



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Transportation to a Charter School

Students experiencing homelessness who attend charter schools usually receive transportation from their designated school district.

- If the district of origin is designated, the district of origin is required to provide transportation up to 50 miles each way.
- If the district of current location is designated, it is required to provide transportation subject to the mileage limitations applicable to permanently housed students in the district.
Educational Law § 3209(4))



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[NYSED Field Memo #03-2013 Charter School Guidance Q&A](#)



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Obligations of the Local Department of Social Services (DSS)

■ **LDSS is responsible for transporting students who meet criteria** (if LDSS placed in temporary housing outside the school district where student is enrolled + student EAF*-eligible), **including:**

- **Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)**, e.g., specialized transportation services
- **Preschool students**

■ 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. It **bills the LDSS** for entire cost of transportation.

*Emergency Assistance to Families (EAF) Program is a federal program which provides assistance to families to deal with crisis situations.

Education Law §3209(4)(a), NYS Field Memo #2-2017, item 12



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Dispute Process

The McKinney-Vento **dispute resolution process** is required to resolve any dispute that arises over eligibility, school selection, enrollment in a school, or transportation under the McKinney-Vento Act before a district interrupts services for the student.

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(C) & 11432(g)(3)(E); U.S. DOE Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions K-1, K-2; N.Y. Education Law § 3209(5); 8 N.Y.C.R.R. § 100.2(x)(7)(ii)



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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 a **written notice** of district's determination

Continue **enrollment** and **transportation** until all appeals are final

Assist the parent or youth with completing all appeal paperwork.



McKinney-Vento Act

Title 1, Set-Aside Funds



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Title I for Students in Temporary Housing

Title 1, Set Aside monies are used to assist students in temporary housing to meet academic standards.

All students in temporary housing are eligible whether they attend a Title 1 school.

General Principles:

- *Services must be reasonable and necessary to assist homeless students to take advantage of educational opportunities.*
- *Title I, Part A funds must be used only as a last resort when funds or services are not available from other public or private sources, such as public health clinics, or local discretionary funds.*

[NYSED Allowable and Unallowable Uses for Title 1 Homeless Set-Aside Funding](#)

[NCHE Brief: Serving Students Experiencing Homelessness under Title 1 Part A](#)



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Title I Services for Students in Temporary Housing

- Academic programs and educational support services
- Basic and emergency supplies
- After school programs
- Counseling services
- Parental involvement
- Intervention programs
- Outreach efforts
- Data collection to assess the needs of students in temporary housing
- Work of a McKinney-Vento liaison



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Check for Understanding



Check for Understanding #1

For students in temporary housing, which district is responsible for providing transportation?

- A.** School District of Origin
- B.** School District of Local Residence
- C.** Designated District of Attendance
- D.** School District where the charter school is located



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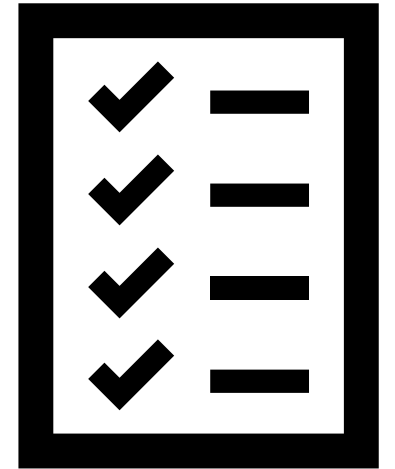


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Check for Understanding #2

Which of the following documents must a student in temporary housing provide to enroll in a charter school?

- A.** Birth certificate
- B.** Medical/immunization records
- C.** School records from previous school
- D.** None of the above



Check for Understanding #3

ENROLL



Can a charter school require that a caregiver obtain legal guardianship to enroll an unaccompanied homeless youth?

- A.** Yes, in all instances
- B.** Yes, if student is in elementary school.
- C.** Yes, if enrolling in a new school district.
- D.** No, the school district must enroll the youth in school even if they do not have guardianship papers.



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Check for Understanding #4

How long can a student be designated as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act?

- A.** For one school year
- B.** For as long as stipulated in the charter school policy.
- C.** For as long as the student's housing is not fixed, regular, and adequate.
- D.** For as long as the family chooses to attend the charter school.



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Check for Understanding #5

Which of the following should **NOT** be listed on the STAC form for a student in temporary housing attending a charter school?

- A. School District of Origin
- B. Charter School
- C. School District of Local Residence
- D. School District of Attendance



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Summary



Role of the McKinney-Vento Liaison



IDENTIFICATION

- Identify students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- Continue eligibility for McKinney-Vento benefits for an unspecified length of time if housing is not fixed, regular, and adequate.



ENROLLMENT

- Assist students with immediate enrollment if admission requirements are met and there are seats available in the charter school.



SUPPORT

- Provide access to resources: health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
- Ensure transportation to and from school of origin.
- Provide services to students in temporary housing using Title 1, Set-Aside funds.



Key Ideas

What are some key ideas to remember to about the **McKinney-Vento Act** as it relates to charter schools?



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Resources

More
Information



[NYSED Charter School Guidance Q&A](#)

[Housing Questionnaire](#)

[Flowchart for Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility](#)

[Identifying Children and Youth in Homeless Situations](#)

[Enrolling Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness in School](#)

[Charter School Toolkit](#)



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Technical and Educational Assistance Center

- **Help Line** (800-388-2014)
- **Website** (<https://nysteachs.org>)
- **Web-Based Trainings**
- **Outreach Materials**
- **Tales from the Field** <https://www.nysteachs.org/>



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Next Webinars:

Understanding the STAC Policy
Thursday, January 16, 2025
9:30am - 11:00am

Understanding the STAC 202 Process
(Presented by the NYS STAC Office)
Thursday, January 23, 2025
9:30am - 11:00am



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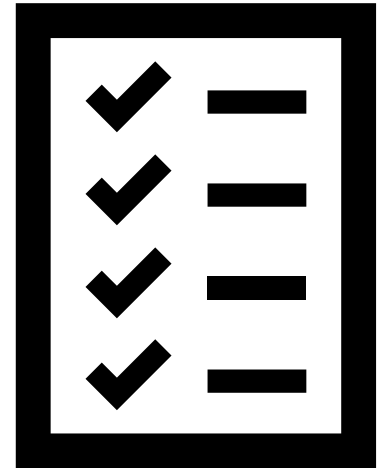
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Session Survey

Please take a few moments to complete our survey.

<https://measurement.welcomesyourfeedback.com/PartSvy12122>

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We appreciate your feedback! Responses are used in the planning of upcoming Professional Learning sessions.