

MCKINNEY-VENTO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ENCOUNTER MANY BARRIERS...

Children and youth living in transitional situations encounter many barriers to enrollment and school success.

- Lack of transportation
- Lack of immunization and medical records
- Lack of school records
- State guardianship/residency requirements not uniformly interpreted by schools
- Lack of birth certificates
- Attendance policies
- Secondary school credit accrual
- Frequent mobility
- Lack of staff awareness and sensitivity
- Inability to complete school assignments
- Lack of psychological services
- Poor health and inadequate medical care
- Physical needs such as food, clothing, shelter, health care
- Access to special programs and services (Special Education, Head Start, Gifted and Talented, Even Start, ESOL, Title I)

COMPARABLE SERVICES

McKinney-Vento eligible students must receive comparable services to those received by all other children including:

- Transportation services
- Educational Services
- Meals through school nutrition program

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Assistance obtaining documentation
- FAFSA application assistance
- Individual tutoring available
- Health services referral
- Assistance with school communication

What are schools required to do?

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act and ESSA outlines requirements for schools.

- Schools must keep children in the school of origin (the school the student attended when permanently housed or last enrolled) to the extent feasible, except where contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian. The student's right to attend their school of origin extends to the entire duration of McKinney-Vento eligibility.
- Schools must remove any barriers that contribute to exclusion or enrollment delay. This means schools are required to immediately enroll children and youth experiencing homelessness.
- Each school district must identify a McKinney-Vento Liaison.
- Each school must post public notice of educational rights of McKinney-Vento eligible students.
- Schools must ensure enrollment with full and equal opportunity to succeed in school (e.g. Head Start, Even Start, pre-school, health care, dental, mental health, etc.)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Florida children between 3 and 22 years of age who are eligible for Exceptional Student Education Programs may receive a variety of services provided through the public-school system. If a McKinney-Vento eligible student has an identified disability; he or she may be eligible for special educational services. Parents who believe their child may qualify for special education should request an educational evaluation at the child's school. If eligible, the student will then receive special education instruction and related services according to their individual education plan (IEP). You may contact the ESE Department at 850-983-5167 for additional information about programs for students with disabilities.

Free/Reduced Lunch and Breakfast Program

Public school children benefit from this federal program that provides nutritious meals at low cost. Free/reduced cost breakfasts and lunches are available to McKinney-Vento eligible families under the following conditions.

- The family meets the McKinney-Vento definition
- The family now receives SNAP or TANF
- The total household income falls below income guidelines
- The family houses a foster child, in which case the foster child may be eligible regardless of family income

Every Child Has A Right to An Education

The Subtitle VII-B McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, reauthorized in 2015 by Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act and state law, protects the rights of students living in transition to receive a free and appropriate public education. Nearly everyone who is between the ages of 5 and 21 on September 1 of the school year and has not been expelled has the right to attend school, even if they lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence.

1. A campsite, emergency or transitional shelter or abandoned in hospitals
2. With more than one family in a house, mobile home, or apartment (because the family does not have a place of their own)
3. In a care, park, public space, abandoned building, bus or train station
4. In a motel or hotel due to the lack of alternate accommodations
5. In a location not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g., abandoned building, storage facility, etc.)
6. An unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian)
7. Migratory children who qualify as eligible due to their living situation
8. Substandard housing (includes lacking in electricity, water, heating)

Street Survival Guide

<https://careersourceescarosa.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20-Street-Survival-Guide.pdf>



McKinney-Vento Program

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McKinney-Vento Program

Assisting Families in
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