**ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**HAVE THE RIGHT TO FREE,**

**APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION**

**Including children and youth with:**

* **Uncertain housing**
* **A temporary address**
* **No permanent physical address**

The federal McKinney-Vento Act guarantees school enrollment for anyone who, due to a lack of housing, does not have a ***fixed***, ***regular*,** and ***adequate*** night time residence. Such children and youth may live:



* In an emergency shelter or transitional housing,
* In a motel, hotel, or campground due to the lack of an adequate alternative,
* In a car, park, public place, bus or train station, or abandoned building,
* Doubled up with relatives or friends due to loss of housing or economic hardship,
* In these conditions and be a migratory child or youth, or
* In these conditions and be a youth not accompanied by a parent or guardian.

**Children and youth living in these settings may meet the McKinney Vento definition of homelessness and have additional educational rights.**

**Where can a child or youth without a fixed, regular, and adequate residence attend school?**

* The school the child or youth attended before becoming homeless or was last enrolled (school of origin), or
* The school in the attendance area where the child or youth is currently living

**How can delays be avoided when enrolling a student experiencing homelessness in school?**

* Enroll the student immediately.
* Contact the previous school and ask that the records be sent electronically or shared over the phone.
* Contact the principal, school counselor, or local homeless education liaison with any concerns.
* Contact the local homeless education liaison to support unaccompanied youth when enrolling in school.

**Where can I get help?**

**Cathey Burks, M.Ed.**

**McKinney-Vento Liaison**

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