

McKinney Vento- Act: Subtitle VII-B of The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act authorizes the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program and is the primary piece of federal legislation related to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Rights of child per the McKinney-Vento Act:

- Right to continue at school of origin
- Right to enroll in school of residence
- Right to immediate enrollment without required documentation
- Right to transportation to school
- Right to equal education

Who is considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act?

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youths as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term "homeless children and youths" includes children and youths who are:

- sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason;
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- abandoned in hospitals;
- living in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or
- migratory children living in any of the circumstances described above.

Are transitional housing programs considered a homeless situation?

Yes. A transitional housing program is one in which the families or children receive case management, rent subsidies, and is time-limited.

Are children and youth who move in with relatives, friends, or other people eligible for McKinney-Vento services?

Children and youth who are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason are covered by the McKinney-Vento Act. This can include unaccompanied youth who are running away from home, even if their parents state a desire for the youth to return home. Families who share adequate housing on a long-term basis due to preference or convenience would not be covered by the Act.

If parents send their children to live with friends or relatives because they want their children to go to another school, do we treat the children as homeless?

No. The McKinney-Vento Act provides rights and services for children and youth experiencing homelessness. If children are sharing housing only to attend a different school, they are not covered under the Act.

*Please contact Tracey Schmidt (Reedsville Homeless Liaison) if you identify any students who may qualify as homeless or may be at risk of being homeless, at 920-754-4345 or tschmidt@reedsville.k12.wi.us.