

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

What is it?

A Federal act to ensure that homeless children and youth have access to free and appropriate public education on an equal basis with other children.

What is the Definition of Homeless?

Children who:

- Reside in a public or private shelter
- Reside in a place not designated for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping or living accommodations (Vehicles, campers, motels)
- Reside with their family in a residence with other relatives or friends due to lack of housing. (Doubling Up)
- Are Runaways
- Are children of migrant workers who lack adequate housing.
- Have been abandoned or awaiting foster care
- Are considered “Unaccompanied Youth” – teens living with friends or relatives who do not have guardianship of the student.

These are usually the result of an “Event” – house fire, eviction, domestic violence situation, etc.

While the Keystone School District makes efforts to identify all students who meet the definition of Homeless, students and families who meet this definition are encouraged to notify the District Homeless Liaison, so that efforts can be made to eliminate any barriers to education, ensure that all student’s rights are explained to him or her, and provide support and services to families.

Provisions of the Act

- Schools are to immediately enroll homeless children, even if they are unable to produce records normally required for enrollment. (Medical records, academic records, proof of residency, etc.)
- Homeless children have the right to attend either their original school (if within a reasonable distance) or the school in the area in which they currently reside for the duration of their homelessness, or until the end of the school year.
- In a case where the educating district is different than the district where the student is currently residing, both school districts are responsible for the facilitation & cost of transportation.
- Immediately upon enrollment, homeless children are entitled to a free school breakfast and lunch.
- Schools are to assist with educational needs including school clothing, as well as the facilitation of tutoring, after school programs, and participation in extra-curricular activities.

Keystone School District Homeless

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