

Title X

The McKinney-Vento Act

Guarantees homeless children and youth an education equal to what they would receive if not homeless.

Who is homeless?

Homeless children and youth are individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence or an unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. This includes the following situations:

- sharing the housing of others (known as doubling-up) due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- abandoned in hospitals
- awaiting foster care
- living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

Which school can a homeless child attend?

There are two choices for a student in a homeless situation—the school of origin and the school of residency. The school of origin is the school the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled. The school of residency is the school serving the area where the child or youth is currently physically dwelling. When determining the school of best interest, a homeless child or youth should remain in the school of origin (to the extent feasible) unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian or to the wishes of the unaccompanied youth.

Enrollment

The McKinney-Vento Act requires the immediate enrollment of homeless children and youth. These children must be allowed to attend school even if they are unable to produce previous academic records, immunization and medical records, proofs of residency, birth certificates, or other documentation that is usually required.

Transportation

School districts must provide transportation for homeless children and youth to the school of best interest. Districts must provide transportation during the resolution of pending disputes. While disputes over enrollment, school placement, or transportation arrangements are being resolved, students must be transported to the school of choice of the parent or unaccompanied youth.

Call Dufur School District Homeless Coordinator, Jack Henderson at 541-467-2509

