Education of Homeless Children

Every child of a homeless individual and every homeless child are entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to children with permanent housing. The District must assign and admit a child who is homeless to a District school regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment. The District may not require an out-of-District attendance agreement and tuition for a homeless child.

Should a child become homeless over the course of the school year, the child must be able to remain at the school of origin, or be eligible to attend another school in the district.

The Superintendent will review and revise as necessary rules or procedures that may be barriers to enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, the Superintendent will consider issues of transportation, immunization, residence, birth certificates, school records, and other documentation.

Homeless students will have access to services comparable those offered to other students, including but not limited to:

1. Transportation services;
2. Educational services for which a student meets eligibility criteria (e.g., Title I);
3. Educational programs for children with disabilities and limited English proficiency;
4. Programs in vocational and technical education;
5. Programs for gifted and talented students; and
6. School nutrition program.

The Superintendent will give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school. The Superintendent will appoint a liaison for homeless children. A “homeless individual” is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

Anyone having a concern or complaint regarding placement or education of a homeless child will first present it orally and informally to the District homeless liaison. To further ensure that the District is removing barriers to the educational access and success of children and youths who are homeless, and to ensure that Title I funding is expended in an appropriate manner, the District has adopted the dispute resolution form at 3125F.

Cross Reference: 1700 Uniform Complaint Procedure
3125F McKinney-Vento Homeless Educational Assistance Dispute Resolution Form

McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
§ 20-5-101, MCA Admittance of child to school

©MTSBA 2020
Big Sky School District #72

Adopted on: 10/24/2017
Reviewed on: 10/06/2017

3125F STUDENTS

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION FORM

School District __________________________ Liaison __________________________
Telephone __________________________

Date of first contact by homeless individual, guardian, or representative ______________

Homeless Student’s Name __________________________

Describe the issue(s) in question __________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

School District Contact __________________________ Telephone __________________________
(Superintendent/Principal)

Date ________________ (within 7 business days)
Resolution of Liaison/School District Level (describe below) ____ or
Forwarded to OPI Homeless Coordinator (please contact at (406) 444-2036) ____

Date ________________ (within 15 business days)
Resolution to OPI Homeless Coordinator Level (describe below) ____ or
Forwarded to Superintendent of Public Instruction ____

Describe Resolution Results ______________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Homeless Coordinator Signature __________________________

This form must be filed with
Heather Denny
Homeless Coordinator
Office of Public Instruction
Po Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

Big Sky School District #72

©MTSBA 2020