



## **The 10 duties of the Homeless Education Liaison**

**The Law:** The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) creates new requirements for the capacity, training and duties of the school district's Homeless Education liaisons. Under ESSA, liaisons must be able to carry out their duties described in the law. ESSA specifies **ten liaison duties** (see text box below), including an overarching requirement "to ensure that... homeless children and youths are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, schools of that local school district."

### **Homeless Education liaisons must ensure that:**

1. homeless children and youth are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other entities and agencies;
2. homeless children and youth are enrolled, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed, in school;
3. homeless families, children and youth receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start, early intervention, and other preschool programs administered by the LEA;
4. homeless families, children and youth receive referrals to health, dental, mental health, housing, substance abuse, and other appropriate services;
5. parents or guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate;
6. public notice of homeless students' rights is disseminated in locations frequented by parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth, including schools, shelters, libraries and soup kitchens, in an understandable manner and form;
7. enrollment disputes are mediated;
8. parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth are informed of and assisted in accessing transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin;
9. school personnel providing McKinney-Vento/ Homeless Education services receive professional development and other support; and

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- **Provide high-quality instruction driven by measurable data.**
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- **Address every student's individual learning needs.**
- **Connect with students and stake holders by building meaningful relationships.**

10. unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging academic standards other children and youth, including through receiving partial credits, and are informed of their status as independent students for the FAFSA and receive verification of that status.

42 USC §11432(g)(6)(A)

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