



LEA McKinney-Vento Homelessness Policy Checklist

Local Educational Agency name:

Policy name(s) and/or number(s):

Date the policy was adopted:

| Component | Included and compliant ¹ (page/citation) | Included, not compliant (page/citation) | Not included | Notes ² |
|--|--|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Definition of homeless | | | | |
| Liaisons | | | | |
| LEA liaison is required | | | | |
| School liaisons are required | | | | |
| LEA liaison is required to participate in PD provided by State Coordinator | | | | |
| PD provided to school liaisons and other school staff (principals, attendance officers, teachers, enrollment personnel, counselors, and specialized instructional support personnel) | | | | |
| School personnel, service providers, advocates, parents, guardians and students are informed of the liaison's duties | | | | |
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¹ To be considered compliant, the information in the policy must be legally accurate and complete. It does not have to include implementation instructions. For example, the definition of school of origin must include preschools and feeder schools. It does not have to go into detail about which preschools are covered.

² If a policy is marked not compliant, explain why in the notes. Also note any questions or concerns about a policy and any policies that are particularly well-written or otherwise could be considered a model.

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| Identification | | | | |
| Public notice of educational rights is disseminated in locations frequented by parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth | | | | |
| Collaboration with community agencies | | | | |
| PD is provided to school liaisons and other school staff (principals, attendance officers, teachers, enrollment personnel, counselors, and specialized instructional support personnel) | | | | |
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| School of origin | | | | |
| Definition of school of origin | | | | |
| Best interest determination, including prioritizing parent/guardian/youth wishes and presumption of school of origin. | | | | |
| Transportation, including timeliness and crossing LEA lines. | | | | |
| Preschool is specifically included | | | | |
| Written explanation, including information about how to appeal, is provided if the LEA sends a student to a school that is not the school of origin or the school requested by the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth | | | | |

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| Immediate enrollment, including full participation | | | | |
| Immediate enrollment without documents: records, birth certificate, residency, uniform/dress code | | | | |
| Immediate enrollment without immunizations and health records | | | | |
| Immediate enrollment in preK per COMAR (immediately enrolled, regardless of existing class size or space limitations) | | | | |
| Immediate enrollment in other LEA-administered early childhood programs | | | | |
| Missed application or enrollment deadlines during a period of homelessness | | | | |
| Access to extracurricular activities | | | | |
| Transportation to extracurricular activities | | | | |
| Access to CTE programs | | | | |
| Access to free school meals | | | | |
| Outstanding fines/fees cannot be a barrier to immediate enrollment (including full participation). | | | | |
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| Unaccompanied youth | | | | |
| Definition | | | | |
| Immediate enrollment without parent or guardian | | | | |
| Full participation | | | | |
| Assistance with FAFSA | | | | |
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Disputes

Process is available if a dispute arises over eligibility, or school selection or enrollment in a school.

Student (including unaccompanied youth) is immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals.

Parents, guardians and youth are provided with a written explanation of any decisions made by a school or LEA, including the right to appeal.

Dispute process includes the liaison.

Dispute process includes timelines.

Dispute process is accessible and understandable to parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth.

Dispute process references the ability to appeal to the state.

Graduation and Postsecondary transition

Partial credits

Access to school counselors

Access to MD state diploma

Family engagement

Parents and guardians are given meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of

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| their children and information about their rights, including transportation. | | | | |
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| Barrier removal generally | | | | |
| General statement that barriers to identification, enrollment and retention will be removed. | | | | |
| Absences caused by homelessness will be excused. | | | | |
| Robust interventions will be put in place to improve attendance immediately and tried for a reasonable time prior to any adverse action related to attendance. | | | | |
| Out-of-school suspensions will not be permitted for any non-violent behaviors. | | | | |
| McKinney-Vento students are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. | | | | |
| Referrals to early childhood programs not administered by the LEA. | | | | |
| referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services. | | | | |
| Homeless status is treated as a protected education record that will not be shared without specific consent (or other appropriate reference to privacy/confidentiality). | | | | |
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