



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				

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.

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				
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)				

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				

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).				

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH				
Definition				
Immediate enrollment without parent or guardian				
Full participation				
Assistance with FAFSA				
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 state diploma				

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT				
Parents and guardians are given meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children and information about their rights, including transportation.				
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).				