

McKinney-Vento Act

The McKinney-Vento Act (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.) is a federal law ensuring the children and youth experiencing homelessness will successfully enroll and stay in school without any barriers. The definition of homelessness, according to the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Act, is children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Some examples are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- Migratory children living in the above circumstances
- Unaccompanied youth living in the above circumstances

Parent/Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Rights:

Unaccompanied homeless youth are defined as youth who do not live with parents/guardians. Unaccompanied youth are ensured the same educational rights as other homeless students, which include the right to:

- Receive the free, appropriate public education to which they are entitled.
- Be enrolled in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in the local school near where they are living or continue attending their school of origin if that is the preference.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive the same educational services as all other students, according to the child's needs.

For more information, please visit the [NCHPEP website](https://hepnc.uncg.edu/) - <https://hepnc.uncg.edu/>.

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