

McKinney-Vento Compliance & Provisions

Student Services

McKinney-Vento Defined by DPI

unaccompanied homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.



Responsibility of Staff:

One City Schools is committed to educating staff on its responsibilities to comply with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act -- and more generally, on our ability as educators to ensure that all students, regardless of economic hardship, attain equal access to the educational opportunities that they deserve.



As part of One City's ongoing professional development, our FASE staff receives information on how to ensure that they are best supporting homeless students. This includes information on stats regarding homelessness prevalence, definitions of homelessness, how it affects students and families educationally, and concrete steps our staff can take to ensure we support these families. This information is provided by our FASE Leadership.

Services Families are Entitled to:

TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM SCHOOL OF ORIGIN (INCLUDING PRESCHOOL):

At the time of identification, families/homeless youth are provided with a written notice of their educational rights under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act. This includes their rights to transportation to and from school, at the responsibility of the LEA.

Although One City does not provide transportation as part of our regular program, we do work with homeless families to ensure that they are able to have their transportation needs to and from school met. The means through which transportation is provided is based upon the individual circumstances of the student in question. Thus far, we have purchased long-term bus passes from Madison Metro for our homeless families to ensure their transportation needs are met over the course of the school year. We are fortunate to be located just a few blocks from the South side Transfer Point of the Madison Metro bus, making our school very accessible via public transit.

If more appropriate for a given family's situation, we are prepared to provide gas vouchers for homeless families who do have a vehicle. We also stand prepared to coordinate cost-sharing and logistics of transportation with local districts from which a homeless youth were to enroll.

IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT:

One City will ensure that any homeless youth, including unaccompanied youth, is able to immediately enroll even in the absence of typically required records (such as academic records, medical records, proof of residency, etc.) In the absence of required immunizations or medical records, our homeless liaison will immediately assist with obtaining such immunizations or securing previous records.



One City's Director of Family and Community Initiatives, Marilyn Ruffin, serves as both enrollment coordinator and also the LEA's homeless liaison. The tie between these roles ensures that all homeless families are able to seamlessly and immediately enroll at One City without barriers. We believe that syncing these roles will help avoid any confusion over the rights of homeless students to immediately enroll.

In cases where a homeless student enrolls with One City, the homeless liaison will immediately contact the previous school to obtain any possible documentation. Again, One City will ensure homeless youth are able to enroll even in the absence of typically required records. In cases where a homeless student from One City moves to another district, One City's homeless liaison will work with One City's Director of Operations and Strategy to immediately compile and transfer any records relating to the student directly to the new district of enrollment for that student. Student records that One City receives will be immediately and applicably integrated into our Student Information System, PowerSchool, to ensure the students records are within One City's system in a timely fashion.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

As an LEA with only a single school serving each grade, there is no optionality regarding the school of best interest for the student, which is a very common source of formal disputes relating to homeless students. Any homeless student seeking to enroll with One City will be enrolled in our only school. One City's homeless liaison will also take other measures to prevent and diffuse disputes prior to a formal complaint, including staff training, proactive communication with affected families and facilitating discussions as necessary.

With regard to formal disputes, the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth will be guided through the process by the homeless liaison. To initiate a formal dispute, the complainant will submit either a written or oral statement to the Principal, outlining the area of issue and any relevant information. Within 10 business days of receipt of the dispute, the Principal will provide the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of his/her decision related to the dispute. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision, the complainant will then be able to appeal to the CEO of One City Schools by submitting another written or oral statement. The CEO will issue a decision on the appeal in writing within 30 business days of the appeal, which will stand as the LEA's final decision.

All One City policies and procedures will be communicated to parents/guardians through One City's Parent Handbook, which is made available to families electronically at the beginning of the year, or, time of enrollment (if the student enrolls mid-year), as well as by hard copy upon request at the school. Additionally, homeless youth, parents and guardians will be advised by the homeless liaison of their full rights at their time of enrollment.*



What is a fixed residency?

- Adequate residence is one that is sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments
- one that is stationary, permanent, and not subject to change

Important Terminology:

- Immigrant: A person who moves to a country and plans to stay permanently.
- Migrant: Someone who moves because the student or family are involved in seasonal agricultural or fishing work.
- Refugees: People who have fled their home country due to fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, and are not in the U.S. while they are going through the initial immigration process.
- Asylees: Refugees who are in the U.S. when going through the initial immigration process.
- Parolees: People who receive temporary legal status to enter the U.S. due to urgent humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons. Typically, they are not eligible for the same kinds of services as a refugee.
- Unaccompanied (alien) minors: Youth under age 18 who come to the U.S. without an accompanying parent or guardian. The term “unaccompanied” in this context refers to their immigration status, not their McKinney-Vento status.
- Unaccompanied homeless youth: children and youth who lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and are also not under the care of a parent or legal guardian.

Community Resources:

- [211 Wisconsin](#)
- [CAC Housing Resource Desk](#)
- [Tenant Resource Center](#)
- [Energy/Utility Assistance](#)
- [Housing Navigation Services](#)
- [Homeless Services Consortium of Dane County](#)
- [Home Energy](#)
- [Assurance Wireless](#)
- [Project Babies](#)
- [Birth to 3 Program](#)
- [Play and Learn](#)
- [Society of St. Vincent de Paul](#)

Key Staff Members:



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