Do you know your educational rights while you are experiencing Homelessness?

Visit www.kentisd.org
• Click Instructional Services
• Click Homeless

Information includes -
• Phone / Email for your school’s Homeless Liaison
• Student Rights under MV law

Visit our webpage for more information

Have a question? Not sure where to enroll your student?
Contact: Casey Gordon, MV Regional Grant Coordinator
caseygordon@kentisd.org
616-365-2337
Rights Under MV Act

Students in Kindergarten through 12th grade have educational rights under the MV Act.

K-12 Students Have the Right to:
- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if they lack documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in the local school or continue in their school of origin (if the school district feels the school you select is not in the best interest of the student, they will provide you with a written explanation and inform you of your right to appeal their decision)
- Receive transportation to their school of origin, if requested
- Receive educational services comparable to other students
- Receive free lunch if the school participates in the School Nutrition Program

Who is Homeless?

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homelessness as lacking a “fixed, regular, and adequate” nighttime residence. Students who have lost their housing due to economic hardship or disaster are covered under the MV Act.

Students may be eligible for services if they are:
- Living in a shelter
- Living unsheltered (in a park, car, tent, etc.)
- Living in a motel
- Living in a Transitional Housing program
- Living doubled-up with others due to housing loss and economic hardship
- Unaccompanied homeless youth

Out of School Youth

If you have stopped attending school or have dropped out, your school district’s Homeless Liaison can help connect you to services, including re-enrollment in school.

What if I am alone?

Youth who are separated from their parents are eligible for help from their district’s Homeless Liaison. The Liaison can help you with enrollment, scheduling, transportation to school of origin, school supplies, and referrals for community services.

What about my child in preschool?

PreK students attending state or federally funded programs (GSRP, Head Start blend, ECSE) are also eligible for McKinney-Vento Act services:
- Immediate enrollment, even if lacking key documents (if space is available)
- Right to continue in school of origin (if in the best interest of the child)
- Receive transportation to continue in school of origin (if in best interest of student)

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web:
www.kentisd.org/instructional-services/homeless