

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

<http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title42/chapter119/subchapter6/partB&edition=prelim>

The ***McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*** is a federal law that provides services to families and unaccompanied youth that live in a temporary situation due to loss of housing.

The term “homeless children and youth”:

1. Refers to individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, AND
2. Includes children and youth who are:
 - Living in shared housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason.
 - Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, substandard housing, abandoned buildings, and/or campgrounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations.
 - Living in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for humans.
 - Living in emergency or transitional shelters.
 - Unaccompanied youth (not living with a parent or guardian) living in a temporary situation.
 - Migratory children living in any of the above circumstances.

Parent and Student Educational Rights

- Immediate enrollment in Local Education Agency
- School selection
- Transportation assistance (school bus or VIA)
- Immediate eligibility for free child nutrition

High School Students

See below to get a copy of important documents such as:

- Birth certificate
- Texas ID
- Texas Driver’s License
- **For your documents, click here** (<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/tx-vital-docs/>)

For information specifically regarding graduation, click below:

- **Your Texas graduation rights? Click here** (<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/tx-hs-graduation-students-rights/>)

The ***Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008***, requires state child welfare agencies to work collaboratively with state and local education agencies to promote stability and improve educational outcomes for children in foster care. Students residing in foster care are eligible for all U.S. Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs and caregivers are not required to complete a separate application in order to participate in these programs.

If you are experiences housing instability or have students in Foster Care, there are resources that are available.

McKinney-Vento (Homeless) Resources

- [Texas Homeless Education Office](http://www.theotx.org/) (http://www.theotx.org/)
- [Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth \(TEHCY\) Program](https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/support-for-at-risk-schools-and-students/texas-education-for-homeless-children-and-youth-tehcy-program) (https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/support-for-at-risk-schools-and-students/texas-education-for-homeless-children-and-youth-tehcy-program)
- [Texas Education Agency McKinney-Vento flyer \(English\)](https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-parents_english_final_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved.pdf) (https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-parents_english_final_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved.pdf)
- https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-youth-english_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved%20%28002%29.pdf
- [Texas Education Agency McKinney-Vento flyer \(Spanish\)](https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-parents-spanish_final_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved%20%28002%29.pdf) (https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-parents-spanish_final_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved%20%28002%29.pdf)
- https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/m-v-h-flyer-youth-spanish_11.15.19_FINAL-s.pdf%20PAC%20Approved%20%28002%29.pdf

Foster Care Important Resources

- [Texas Education Agency Foster Care & Student Success](#)
- [Texas Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide](#)
- [Foster Care & Student Success- Education Laws and Guidance](#)
- [Foster Care & Student Success - Information and Resources](#)
- [Texas Foster Care Justice Project](#)