

McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Homeless children and youths are defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes:

- Children and youths who are:
 - sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as “doubled-up”);
 - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
 - living in emergency or transitional shelters; or
 - abandoned in hospitals;
- Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

Each child of a homeless individual and each unaccompanied youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, as provided to other children and youths. Homeless students shall not be separated or stigmatized. A homeless child may enroll at:

- The school the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled.
- The public school that non-homeless students attend who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living.

Source: <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/>

Unaccompanied homeless youth are young people experiencing homelessness who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

For more information, please contact the BCSD McKinney-Vento Liaison:

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