

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Review of McKinney Vento Basics for District Liaisons, Staff and Faculty



Introduction

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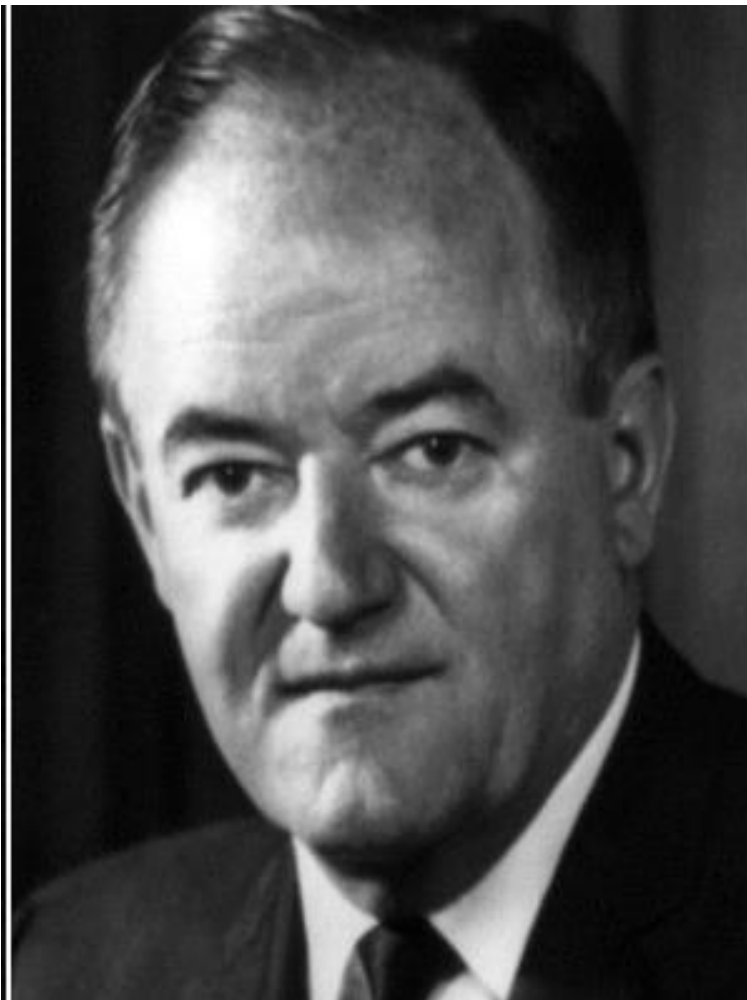
Kansas State Department of Education

Special Education and Title Services

State Coordinator for Education Homeless Children & Youth

a.k.a. McKinney Vento





It was once said that the moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped.

— *Hubert H. Humphrey* —

AZ QUOTES



Discussion Today:

- Background and some history of the McKinney-Vento Act
- Terminology and definitions
- District Responsibilities
- Examples will be intermixed
- COVID 19 Resources



McKinney-Vento Assistance Act:

“In any State where the compulsory residency requirements or other requirements, in laws, regulations, practices, or policies, may act as a barrier to the identification of, or the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of, homeless children and youths, the State educational agency and local educational agencies in the State will review and undertake steps to revise such laws, regulations, practices, or policies, to ensure that homeless children and youths are afforded the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths.” [42 U.S.C.§ 11431(2)]



Who are McKinney & Vento?

- Stewart McKinney was a 9-term Congressman (R) from Connecticut.
- Bruce Vento was a 3-term Congressman (D) from Minnesota.
- They co-authored the Homeless Assistance Act, originally signed in 1987 by President Regan.
- Both men were ardent supporters of and advocates for the rights of the homeless and the long term goal of ending homelessness.

Source: <https://education.wm.edu/centers/hope/resources/documents/bios.pdf>



Every Student Succeeds Act:

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2015,
Title IX, Part A

- Reauthorizes the 1987 McKinney-Vento Act
- Requires education access, attendance, and success for children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Provides states with funding to support local grants and statewide initiatives



ESSA Reauthorization

- Title I funds can pay for transportation
- Title I funds can support a homeless liaison
- Presumption that “school of origin” may be the best interest for the student (The term ***school of origin*** means the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool [42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(3)(I)(i)].)
- Removed students awaiting foster care from definition
- Pre-School children in public programs have school of origin rights

Reference: “Let’s Talk Title I: Everything You Need to Know and Do as an Administrator”, 2nd Edition, Sattler, Cheryl L., PhD. 2016



McKinney Vento Act: lacking fixed, regular and adequate includes:

- Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship or similar situation
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate housing
- Living in emergency or transitional housing
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or bus or train stations
- Children or youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, regular sleeping accommodations
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in the circumstances described above



WHO IS HOMELESS?

An individual who lacks

➤ **Fixed**

➤ **Regular**

➤ **Adequate**

nighttime residence



Fixed, Regular, Adequate...

If you are missing one,
you are homeless.



The Two Sub-categories of Homeless Children and Youth are:

- **ACCOMPANIED** = at least one parent or full legal guardian is present
- **UN-ACCOMPANIED** = no parent or guardian is present

The term ***unaccompanied youth*** includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian [42 U.S.C. § 11434a(6)].



According to the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

2000 M Street, N.W., Suite 210
Washington, DC 20036

A person's silhouette is shown from behind, looking out at a city at night. The city lights are blurred in the background, creating a bokeh effect. The person's hair is tied back. The overall mood is contemplative and somber.

1 IN 5
HOMELESS
YOUTH IS
WITHOUT AN
ADULT.

@NLCHHomeless



A Couple Things about Unaccompanied Youth:

- Not limited to older teenagers
- May enroll themselves in school without an adult or caregiver present
- May participate in meetings on their own behalf regarding school of attendance decisions

For a thorough overview of legal rights and services specific to unaccompanied youth, see: <https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/youth.pdf>



Homeless Situations:

- Doubled up: accompanied or “unaccompanied”
- Hotel/Motel: accompanied or “unaccompanied”
- Shelters/Transitional Housing: accompanied or “unaccompanied”
- Unsheltered: accompanied or “unaccompanied”



One Category At a Time

Doubled up

Accompanied or “Unaccompanied”



One Category At a Time

Hotel/motel

Accompanied or “Unaccompanied”



One Category At a Time

Shelters or transitional housing

Accompanied or “Unaccompanied”



One Category At a Time

Unsheltered

Accompanied or “Unaccompanied”



KANSAS

2018-2019

HOMELESS

STUDENT

COUNT

Districts reporting 9 or fewer Homeless Students are not included on this list

Homeless Student Count					
Districts Reporting Ten or More					
(District Number - District Name, Number of Homeless Students)					
112-Central Plains	10	308-Hutchinson	54	434-Santa Fe Trail	15
202-Turner	149	311-Pretty Prairie	15	443-Dodge City	19
205-Bluestem	17	313-Buhler	31	445-Coffeyville	13
206-Remington-Whitewater	10	320-Wamego	20	450-Shawnee Heights	19
209-Moscow	15	336-Holton	18	452-Stanton	16
210-Hugoton	39	346-Jayhawk	18	453-Leavenworth	65
218-Elkhart	19	347-Kinsley-Offerle	43	457-Garden City	250
229-Blue Valley	124	348-Baldwin City	47	458-Basehor-Linwood	16
230-Spring Hill	63	353-Wellington	80	459-Bucklin	14
231-Gardner-Edgerton	62	357-Belle Plaine	25	460-Hesston	24
233-Olathe	504	362-Prairie View	18	461-Neodesha	23
234-Fort Scott	98	366-Woodson	48	463-Udall	28
243-Lebo-Waverly	10	367-Osawatomie	21	464-Tonganoxie	54
244-Burlington	57	368-Paola	17	465-Winfield	25
246-Northeast	11	373-Newton	48	467-Leoti	26
250-Pittsburg	216	374-Sublette	48	469-Lansing	22
251-North Lyon County	13	383-Manhattan-Ogden	366	475-Geary County	309
252-South Lyon County	12	389-Eureka	22	477-Ingalls	11
253-Emporia	39	402-Augusta	10	480-Liberal	243
259-Wichita	1957	403-Otis-Bison	14	489-Hays	17
260-Derby	32	404-Riverton	16	490-El Dorado	37
261-Haysville	190	405-Lyons	44	491-Eudora	31
262-Valley Center	38	413-Chanute	13	497-Lawrence	135
263-Mulvane	31	415-Hiawatha	11	499-Galena	10
265-Goddard	59	416-Louisburg	32	500-Kansas City	1002
266-Maize	12	417-Morris	22	501-Topeka	485
287-West Franklin	66	418-McPherson	54	503-Parsons	14
289-Wellsville	68	420-Osage	33	508-Baxter Springs	44
290-Ottawa	102	421-Lyndon	11	512-Shawnee Mission	342
305-Salina	111	428-Great Bend	21		



Kansas McKinney Vento 2018-2019

Homeless Children & Youth sorted by living arrangement:

185 districts reported identification of 9014 students ← **Districts reported 9014 Homeless Students**

- 7434 doubled up (living with another family)
- 894 in shelters or transitional housing
- 139 Unsheltered (cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned buildings)
- 544 Hotels/Motels

Homeless Children & Youth sorted by other characteristics:

- 1032 Unaccompanied Youth ← **Districts reported 1032 Unaccompanied Youth**
- 1718 Students with disabilities
- 1244 Limited English Proficient (LEP)
- 202 Migrant



Liaison Responsibilities

- Identify McKinney-Vento families/students
- Ensure full and equal educational opportunity
- Ensure children/youth receive eligible services
- Parental/guardian rights
- Transportation
- Dispute resolution
- Public notice of rights



Homeless Indicators

- Erratic school attendance
- Chronic hunger or fatigue
- Stress/concern about family or where they will go after school
- * Reluctance to part with belongings at school
- Changes in behavior patterns
- Poor grooming
- Clothing that is dirty or not appropriate to weather conditions



Mobility Research

Frequent school changes

- Negatively affects non-mobile students in high mobility schools
- Four to six month recovery period after school switch
- Psychological, social, and academic impact
- Less likely to participate in extra-curricular activities
- Mobility during high school – greatly diminishes likelihood of graduating



Special Needs for McKinney Vento

- Relationships (adult/student, student/student, and adult/adult)
- Confidentiality (who needs to know, FERPA)
- Trauma informed services (loss, stress, domestic violence)
- Sensitivity to situations over which they have no control (lack of internet access to complete assignments, ability to pay fees, no access to laundry facilities, etc)
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)



Special Needs for McKinney Vento

True or false: The living situation of a student experiencing homelessness is protected under FERPA.

The correct answer is: A. True. Section 722(g)(3)(G) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, provides that information about a homeless child's or youth's living situation must be treated as a student education record and must not be deemed directory information under FERPA. 20 USC 1232g.

Consider this: If a McKinney Vento student is suspended or expelled from school, where are they going to spend their day? On the street? With an abuser? Will they have access to food?



McKinney-Vento Assistance Act:

- Immediately enroll student
- Ensure access to educational and other services
- Remove all barriers



Expanding on “Enroll Immediately”

This means enroll even if none of the following are available:

- proof of residency
- proof of guardianship
- birth certificate
- school records
- immunization/medical records
- appropriate clothing
- money to pay fees



Homeless Students Must:
be transported to and from school of origin...

...if it is in the best interest of
the child to do so.



Transportation

Eliminate lack of transportation as a barrier

- To and from school of origin: (The term ***school of origin*** means the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool [42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(3)(I)(i)].)
- Transportation continues for remainder of school year
- Comparable services must be provided
- All grade levels



MORE Transportation

- Strategies:
 - Reroute buses
 - Gas cards
 - District vehicles other than buses
 - Reimburse for gas
 - Taxi, van services
 - Transit passes
 - Public assistance transportation
 - Assist in getting housing near school



Making Sure Kids Get to Eat

Child Nutrition Act of 2004 (USDA)

- Homeless, runaway, and migrant students are automatically eligible for free school meals
- No application paperwork
- Document name, effective date, signature of homeless liaison or service provider
- Receive free meals for remainder of school year and up to 30 days into the next year



McKinney-Vento Early Childhood

Homeless children and youth are entitled to a free, appropriate, public education INCLUDING A PRE-SCHOOL education. This means that pre-school children have:

1. School of origin rights
2. Transportation rights
3. Immediate enrollment rights
4. Free meals



Set Aside Title I funds for Homeless Education

Determine which one of the following methods was used by the Title I Coordinator and the District Homeless Liaison to determine the Homeless Set Aside.

- The number of homeless students was multiplied by the Title I, Part A per pupil allocation.
- 0.5% or a larger percentage of our Title I, Part A allocation was reserved.
- An amount of funds greater than or equal to the amount of our McKinney-Vento subgrant was reserved.
- The needs of our homeless students were identified and funded appropriately.
- The minimum of \$500 for districts under 1000 students was set aside.
- The minimum of \$1500 for districts with 1000 students or more was set aside.
- Other (Please explain)

- The majority of districts select the minimum based on district size
- McKinney Vento numbers are expected to increase due to the COVID 19 crisis



The following are examples of how you may use your Title I set aside for McKinney Vento students:

- Homeless awareness activities
- Counseling services including domestic violence and prevention
- Intervention programs
- Outreach efforts to identify the homeless population
- Mentoring

* Title I funds should only be used when there is no state or local alternative funding source. Title I funds may not be used for costs to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Title I - Homeless Set Aside

- Clothing required by school
- Fees to participate in general education program
- School supplies/backpacks
- Testing fees(AP, IB, SAT, ACT, GED, etc)
- Tutoring/Extended learning time
- Medical and dental expenses(immunizations, eyeglasses, hearing aids, etc)
- Birth certificates, records, etc
- Parental involvement activities (specifically for parents of homeless students)
- Transportation
- Salary of Liaison
- Other



District Liaisons Must Participate in Annual Training

This is a Federal Requirement with emphasis on the word "Annual"

Here in Kansas, you may accomplish this by:

KSDE McKinney-Vento Seminar

- Seminar schedule will be announced through the homeless list-serv
- Zoom platform for the time being; possibly in person later in the school year depending on COVID 19
- If you are not receiving the messages from the homeless list serv, please send me an e mail at: mruhlman@ksde.org



District Liaisons Must Participate in Annual Training

This is a Federal Requirement with emphasis on the word "Annual"

Here in Kansas, you may accomplish this by:

Attending the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth (NAEHCY annual conference).

- The conference is virtual in October (5th – 9th), 2020
- The maximum attendance cost for the full conference is \$150
- Highly recommend liaisons and other district staff participate

<https://naehcy.org/conference/2020-conference/>



District Liaisons Must Participate in Annual Training

This is a Federal Requirement with emphasis on the word "Annual"

Here in Kansas, you may accomplish this by:

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE live or archived webinars)

<https://nche.ed.gov/self-paced-online-training/>

Recorded NCHE Webinars

- + Conducting a Successful Youth Count
- + McKinney-Vento 101: Understanding the Rights of Students Experiencing Homelessness
- + Understanding Doubled-Up
- + McKinney-Vento School Selection Rights Under ESSA
- + Understanding Dropout Prevention: Strategies to Support Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness
- + Paving the Way to College for Students Experiencing Homelessness
- + Helping Families and Schools Recover in the Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey
- + Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility: Changes under ESSA
- + Serving Young Homeless Children under the Child Care and Development Fund Program
- + Supporting Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness through Education and Workforce Partnerships



Funding for McKinney Vento

Grants to the following USD's:

Olathe USD 233
Wichita USD 259
Haysville USD 261
Wellsville USD 289
Ottawa USD 290
Manhattan USD 383
Garden City USD 457
Geary USD 475
Kansas City USD 500
Topeka USD 501

- Donations
- Local Funding
- Title Funding



McKinney Vento and COVID 19



The National Center for Homeless Education

NCHE operates the U.S. Department of Education's technical assistance and information center for the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program.

<https://nche.ed.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-information/>

**COVID-19 (Coronavirus)
Information**

LEARN MORE



Resources:

Some of the National Organizations

- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth (NAEHCY): Annual National Conference, legislative updates <https://naehcy.org/>
- National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE): works closely with the US Department of Education, prime resource for SEA's and LEA's <https://nche.ed.gov/>
- School House Connection <https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/>
- National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty <https://nlchp.org/leap/>
- US Interagency Council on Homelessness <https://www.usich.gov/>





Cause I Ain't Got a Pencil

by Joshua T. Dickerson

I woke myself up
Because we ain't got an alarm clock
Dug in the dirty clothes basket,
Cause ain't nobody washed my uniform
Brushed my hair and teeth in the dark,
Cause the lights ain't on
Even got my baby sister ready,
Cause my mama wasn't home.
Got us both to school on time,
To eat us a good breakfast.
Then when I got to class the teacher fussed
Cause I ain't got a pencil.





If you have questions about this presentation or McKinney Vento in general, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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