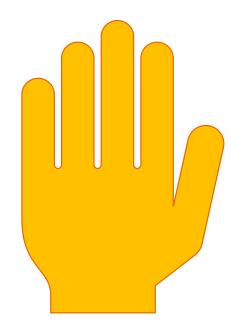
CoC Training: How to Support Families with Children or Unaccompanied Minors

2.12.24









Housekeeping



Respect the trainer(s)

2

Respect attendees

3

Make and take space

4

Share the mic

5

Acknowledge power and privilege

Training Norms & Agreements

About

- Continuum of Care Trainings: Monthly trainings for homeless service providers covering information or skills considered essential by HUD or our system of care
- Hosted by H₃ the 2nd Monday of every month from 10am-Noon
- <u>Required</u> for direct service staff (case managers, care coordinators, etc.) and program managers.

Required Elements for This Training: HUD

Consistent with the CoC Program Interim Rule 24 CFR §578.23, all CoC and ESG programs assisting families with children or unaccompanied youth must:

- A. Take the educational needs of children into account when placing families in housing and will, to the maximum extent practicable, place families with children as close as possible to their school of origin so as not to disrupt such children's education.
- B. Inform families with children and unaccompanied youth of their educational rights, including providing written materials, help with enrollment, and linkage to McKinney Vento Liaisons as part of intake procedures.
- C. Not require children and unaccompanied youth to enroll in a new school as a condition of receiving services.
- D. Allow parents or the youth (if unaccompanied) to make decisions about school placement.
- E. Not require children and unaccompanied youth to attend after-school or educational programs that would replace/interfere with regular day school or prohibit them from staying enrolled in their original school.
- F. Post notices of student's rights at each program site that serves homeless children and families in appropriate languages.
- G. Designate staff that will be responsible for:
 - •1. Ensuring that homeless children and youth in their programs are in school and are receiving all educational services they are entitled to.
 - 2. Coordinating with the CoC, the Department of Social Services, the County Office of Education, the McKinney Vento Coordinator, the McKinney Vento Educational Liaisons, and other mainstream providers as needed.
- H. In order to ensure compliance and to assist providers in meeting these requirements, the CoC will provide training on these issues annually and will include these in the funding competition review and ranking process.

Monitoring

- Attendance is monitored by H₃ staff and discussed during monthly/quarterly provider check-ins with CE Manager and/or CoC Administrator
- Providers/programs lacking attendance at trainings can be subject to Corrective Action Plans

Equity questions to consider

 Have you noticed inequities in your own work on this topic?

 Have you contributed to or interrupted inequities?

 What barriers still exist?
 How might they be addressed?



Trainers

- Gina Bills, Education Liaison
- Alejandra Chamberlain, Director,
 Youth Services

Contra Costa Office of Education



February 12, 2024



Welcome

Please share:

- Name
- Agency
- What is your favorite sweet treat?





Nice to Meet You



Alejandra Chamberlain Director, Youth Services CCCOE



Gina Bills
Education Liaison
CCCOE



CCCOE Enrollment



• 286 schools

Office of Education

- 18 school districts
- Total County Enrollment- Public Schools and Charter Schools

Enrollment: 169,225 | Charter Enrollment: 12,913

The Contra Costa County Office of Education promotes success in learning and life through quality leadership, programs and services.



Engage • **Encourage** • **Empower**

- Provides a range of coordinated services for youth
- Technical assistance and professional development
- Partnerships with school districts, colleges, probation, juvenile court and community organizations





Engage • **Encourage** • **Empower**

- Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY)
- Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP)
- Workforce Program
- Empowerment Program
- Wellness in Schools Program (WISP)



Our Time Together Today

- How to take the educational needs of children into account when placing families in housing
- How to inform families with children and unaccompanied youth of their educational rights as part of intake procedures
- What is and isn't required for children and unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness
- How to coordinate with the CoC, Department of Social Services, County Office of Education, McKinney Vento Coordinator, McKinney Vento Educational Liaisons, and other mainstream providers as needed





What Do You Think?

How many children and youth were identified as homeless during the 2022-23 school year?



Students in Contra Costa County



2,763
Homeless Children and Youth





Engage • **Encourage** • **Empower**

Children
and
Youth:

In Foster Care	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Contra Costa County	751	681	797	842	948
Experiencing Homelessness	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19





Engage • **Encourage** • **Empower**

Children	In Foster Care	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
and	Contra Costa County	751	681	797	842	948
311131						
Youth:	Experiencing Homelessness	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Youth:	Experiencing Homelessness Contra Costa County	2022-23	2021-22 1,694	2020-21 2,271	2019-20 2,680	2018-19 2,896



Who are Homeless Youth?

Children and Youth who:

 Have been identified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act





McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- Federal Legislation that ensures the educational rights and protections of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Authorizes funding for the Federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth program (EHCY)
- Ensures that children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal and immediate access to public education
- Applies to LEA's, which are defined as public school districts, direct and locally funded charter schools and county offices of education
- Provides educational support to promote school success





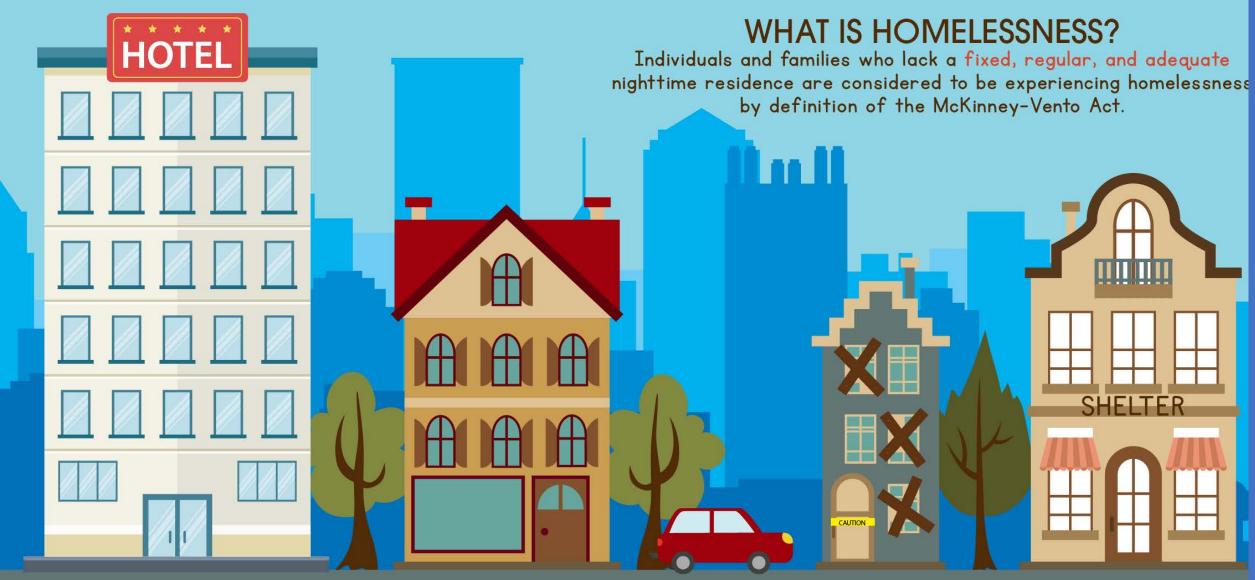
What Do You Think?

Which of the following are included in the McKinney-Vento Act definition of homeless?

Sharing the housing of other persons due to:

- Relocation
- □ Bankruptcy
- Loss of housing
- ☐ Job loss
- ☐ Economic hardship





Hotels/Motels

Doubled-Up

Sharing housing with family, friends, or others

Cars

Condemned Buildings

Shelters & Housing Agencie

2,763 Homeless Youth Enrolled in Contra Costa County for the 22/23 School Year

Acalanes	15
Antioch	308
Brentwood	17
Byron	12
Canyon	0
CCCOE	12
John Swett	82
Knightsen	16
Lafayette	12
Liberty	205
Martinez	43
Moraga	0
Mt. Diablo	612
Oakley	21
Orinda	8
Pittsburg	614
San Ramon Valley	51
Walnut Creek	6
West Contra Costa	729



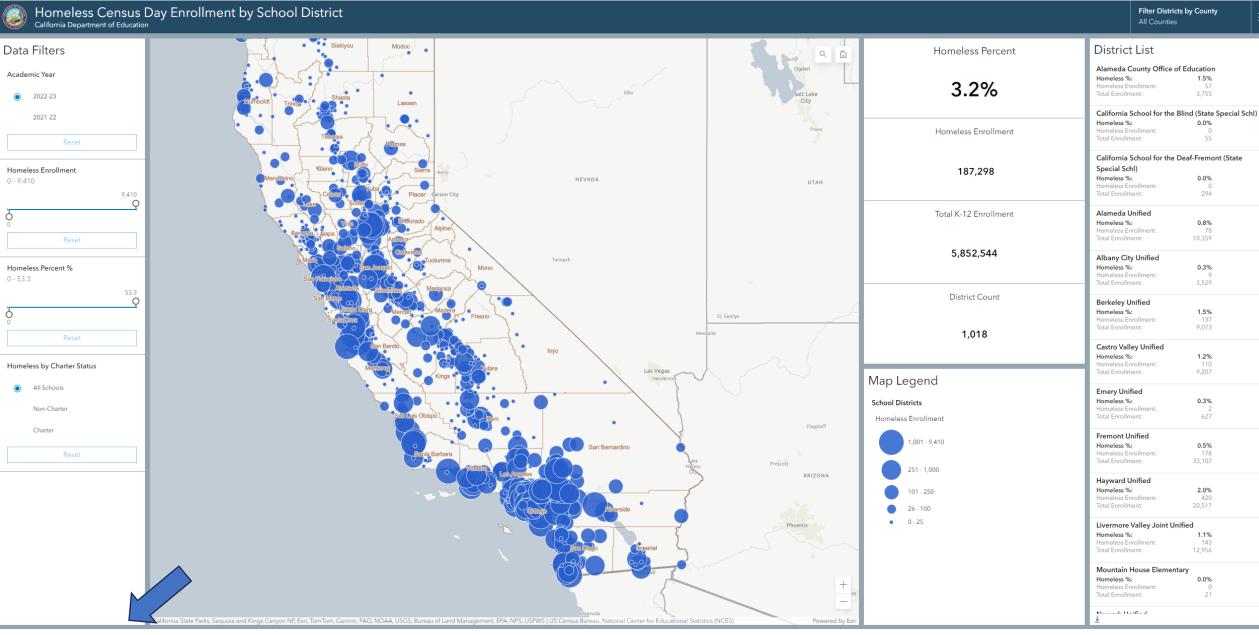
GIS Data Map

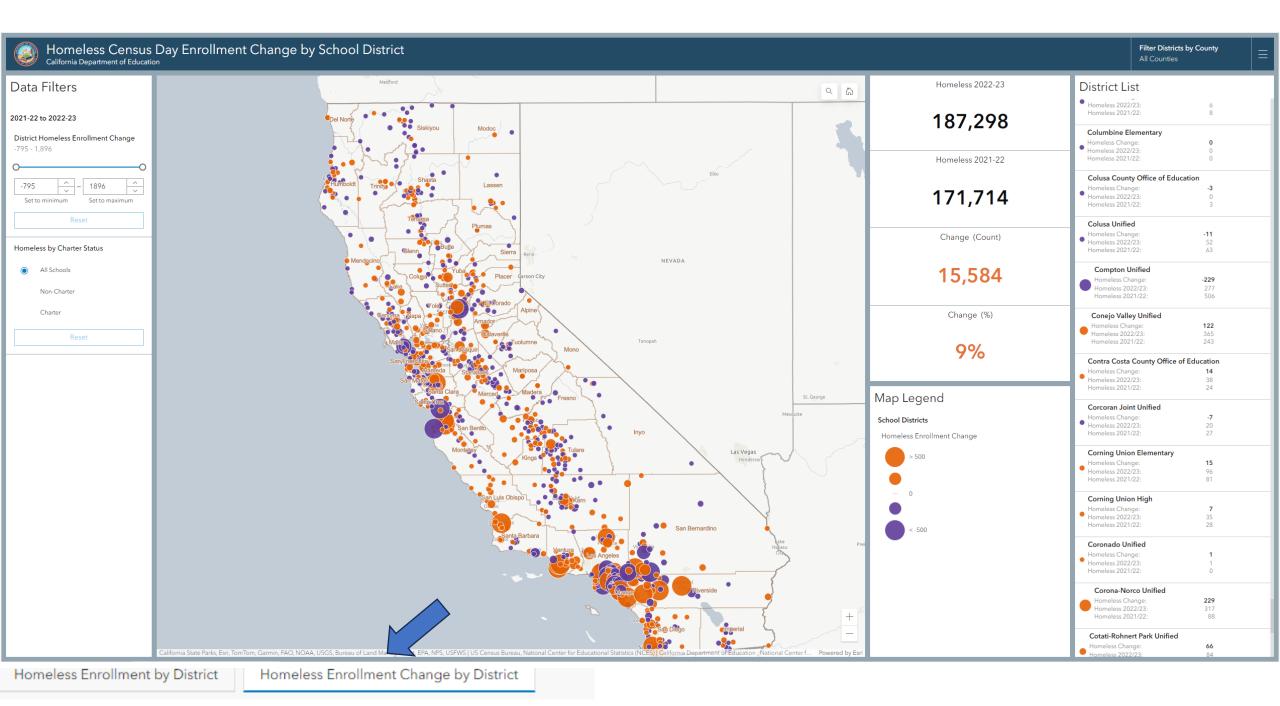
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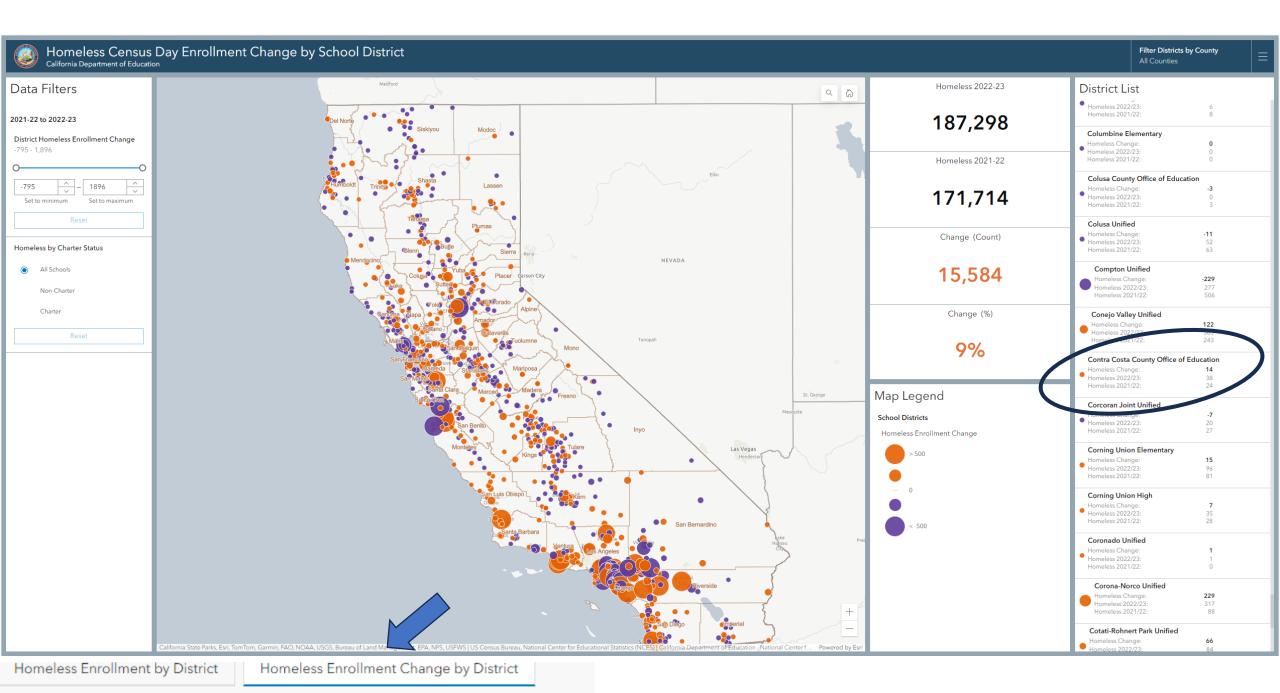
- Homeless Enrollment by District
- Homeless Enrollment Change by District













You can ENROLL in school!

Even if you have:

- Uncertain housing
- A temporary address
- No permanent physical address

You are guaranteed enrollment in school by the federal McKinney-Vento Act and California state law if

- you live:

 In a house or apartment with more than one family due to loss of housing or economic hardship.
- With friends or family because you are a runaway or an unaccompanied youth
- In substandard housing (without electricity, water, or heat)
- In a shelter (family, domestic violence, or youth shelter or transitional living program)
- In a motel, hotel, or weekly rate housing
- In an abandoned building, in a car, at a campground, or on the streets

You can enroll in school immediately even without the documents normally required for enrollment, such as:

- Proof of residency
- Immunization records or other required
- health records
- School records
- Legal guardianship papers

Your child may:

Participate fully in all school activities and programs for which he/she is eligible.

- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin if you request it.
- Continue to attend the school in which he/she was last enrolled even if you have moved away from that school's attendance area.
- Qualify automatically for school nutrition programs.

Your responsibilities are to:

- Make sure your child gets to school on time and ready to learn.
- Stay informed of school rules, regulations, and activities.
- Contact the homeless liaison for assistance in removing barriers to your child's education.
- Attend parent/teacher conferences, Back-to-School Nights, and other school-related activities.

It is not a crime to live in one of the above situations and schools are here to assist you and your children with enrollment and appropriate services. This information will not be shared outside of the educational entity.

For questions about enrolling in school or for assistance with school enrollment, contact:

Your local school district homeless
 Your county homeless liaison:

Office of Education

leam • lead • achieve

Lynn Mackey, SuperIntendent of Schools

liaison:

Your homeless state coordinator:
 Leanne Wheeler
 State Coordinator
 California Department of Education
 1430 N Street, Suite 6408
 Secrement CA 96144

Phone: 1-866-856-8214

R21-001 English 11/21 WEB



iTú puedes INSCRIBIRTE en la escuela!

Incluso si:

- Tu situación de vivienda es incierta
- · Tienes una dirección temporal
- No tienes una dirección física permanente

La ley federal McKinney-Vento y las leyes del estado de California te garantizan la inscripción en la escuela si vives:

- En una casa o departamento con más de una familia debido a la pérdida de tu vivienda o a dificultades económicas
- Con amigos o familiares porque huiste de tu hogar o eres un menor no acompañado
- En una vivienda precaria (sin electricidad, agua o calefacción)
- En un refugio (para familias, víctimas de violencia domestica o jóvenes, o un programa de vivienda temporal)
- En un motel, hotel o vivienda que se paga semanalmente
- En un edificio abandonado, automóvil, campamento o en la calle

Puedes inscribirte en la escuela de inmediato incluso sin los documentos que normalmente se piden para la inscripción, como:

- Prueba de residencia
- Registros de vacunación y otros registros médicos
- Registros escolares
- Papeles de tutela legal

Tu hijo puede:

- Participar plenamente en todas las actividades y programas escolares para
- Recibir transporte de ida y vuelta a su escuela de origen si lo solicitas.
- Seguir asistiendo a la escuela en la que estuvo inscrito por última vez, incluso si se mudó fuera de la zona de asistencia
- Reunir los requisitos automáticamente para participar en los programas de nutrición escolar.

Es tu responsabilidad:

- Asegurarte de que tu hijo asista a la escuela a tiempo y listo para aprender.
- Mantenerte informado de las reglas, normas y actividades de la escuela.
- Contactar al enlace designado para las personas sin hogar para obtener ayuda para eliminar las barreras a la educación de tu hiio.
- Asistir a reuniones entre padres y maestros, las noches de regreso a la escuela y otras actividades relacionadas con la escuela.

Si tienes preguntas acerca de la inscripción en la escuela o para obtener ayuda con la inscripción, contacta a:

- El enlace designado para las personas sin hogar ("homeless liaison") de tu distrito escolar local:
- El enlace designado para las personas sin hogar de tu condado:
- El coordinador de las personas sin hogar de tu estado:

Leanne Wheeler Coordinadora Estatal Departamento de Educación de California 1430 N Street, Sulte 6408 Sacramento, CA 95814 Teléfono: 1.866.856.8214

/21 WEB

- What are some ways to include this information during the intake process?
- What other information would you want to know pertaining to educational rights?







- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents required for enrollment
- Enroll in school and attend classes while school obtains needed documents
- Enroll in the local attendance area school or continue attending their school of origin



- Receive transportation to and from school of origin, if requested by the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the student's need.
- Graduation exemption rights



CCC Homeless Education Liaisons

 Every school district must designate a local homeless education liaison to serve as the key homeless education contact in the district and to ensure that eligible students within the district receive the rights and services to which they are entitled.



FOSTER CARE AB 490 & MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT DISTRICT LIAISON LIST 2022-2023

Acalanes Union High School District	Liaison: Amy McNamara	Phone: (925) 280-3900 ext. 6622
1212 Pleasant Hill Road	Title: Associate Superintendent of	Fax: (925) 280-3903
Lafayette, CA 94549	Administrative Services	Email: amcnamara@auhsdschools.org
	Liaison: Stephanie Thompson	Phone: (925) 280-3900 ext. 6629
	Title: Admin Assistant	Fax: (925) 280-3903
		Email: sthompson@auhsdschools.org
Antioch Unified SD	Liaison: Barbara Aguilar	Phone: (925) 779-7500 ext. 53402
510 G Street	Title: Foster and Homeless Youth	Fax: (925) 779-7514
Antioch, CA 94509	Liaison/Student Support Counselor	Email:
		barbaraaguilar@antiochschools.net
Brentwood Union SD	Liaison: Kirsten Jobb	Phone: (925) 513-6300
255 Guthrie Lane	Title: Director, Student Services	Fax: (925) 634-8583
Brentwood, CA 94513		Email: kjobb@brentwood.k12.ca.us
Byron Union SD	Liaison: Vickey Corker	Phone: (925) 634-6644
14301 Byron Highway	Title: Foster and Homeless Youth	Fax: (925) 376-2343
Byron, CA 94514	Liaison	Email: vcorker@byron.k12.ca.us
Canyon SD	Liaison: Julie Patten	Phone: (925) 376-4671
P.O. Box 187	Title: Principal	Fax: (925) 376-2343
Pinehurst Road, CA 94516		Email: jpatten@canyon.k12.ca.us
Contra Costa County Office of	Liaison: Alejandra Chamberlain	Phone: (925) 942-3308
Education	Title: Youth Development Services	Fax: (925) 942-3490
77 Santa Barbara Road	Director	Email: achamberlain@cccoe.k12.ca.us
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523		
John Swett Unified SD	Liaison: John Angell	Phone: (510) 787-1088 ext. 1109
400 Parker Avenue	Title: Attendance Supervisor	Fax: (510) 787-2184
Rodeo, CA 94572		Email: jangell@jsusd.org
Knightsen SD	Liaison: Veronica Polk	Phone: (925) 626-3303 ext. 3076

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Immediate Enrollment

Students experiencing homelessness are entitled to immediate school enrollment:

- Even when lacking records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, proof of guardianship, or other documentation
- Even if having missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(C)(i)

Enrollment is defined as "attending classes and participating fully in school activities"



42 U.S.C. § 11434a(1)



Case Scenario #1:

After conducting an intake assessment, a parent discloses that their 3 children, ages 6, 12, and 15 have not been attending school.

What assistance can you offer?
What questions do you have for the family?



School of Origin and Residency

Homeless children and youth have the right to attend:

• The school of origin

- The school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed, or
- The school in which the child or youth was last enrolled
- School the student attended within the preceding 15 months
- Includes public preschools (district-administered) and receiving schools

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(A)(ii)

The school of residency

 Any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is living are eligible to attend

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(I)(i)





You are working with a family at Shelter Inc's Mt. View Family Shelter. They have a high school student who was previously attending Antioch High School prior to being placed in emergency housing.

Which is School of Origin? Which is School of Residence?



School of Origin Transportation

 Transportation must be provided to and from the school of origin at the request of parent or guardian; in the case of an unaccompanied youth at the request of the local liaison.

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)

- School of origin transportation rights extend to public preschools and receiving schools.
- When a formerly homeless student obtains permanent housing, the LEA must continue to provide school of origin transportation for the remainder of the academic year.

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(A); EHCY Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question J-5





You are conducting an assessment with a family who is currently living in their car; they have a 5-year-old who will enter kindergarten this Fall.

Because the family lives in their car, they often stay in several different cities each week.



What assistance can you offer?
What questions do you have for the family?

Graduation Rights

A pupil in foster care, homeless, former juvenile court school, military family or a migratory child can opt to graduate with the reduced state graduation exemption requirements if they:

Ca. Educ. Code § 51225.1:

- Are in foster care, homeless, former juvenile court school, military family or a migratory child and transfer schools after the 2nd year of high school
- Are significantly credit deficient and unlikely to graduate on time
- Student will be notified if they qualify for the exemption within 30 days of transfer
- Unaccompanied youth serve as their own ERH



Graduation Rights

Additional Considerations:

Students have the right to stay in school for a 5th year to complete all graduation requirements

- LEA shall exempt a pupil from the local educational agency's graduation requirements and provide the pupil the option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the statewide coursework requirements.
- The number of credits the pupil has earned to the date of transfer, the length of the pupil's school enrollment, or, for pupils with significant gaps in attendance, the pupil's age as compared to the average age of pupils in the third or fourth year of high school, may be used

Graduating with reduced credits may impact post-secondary options





You are working with a 12th grade student, who is on track to graduating; however, the family has since moved out of district.

What education-based assistance can be offered?



Unaccompanied Youth

 Defined as children and youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian

 A guardianship issue alone does not qualify a student for McKinney-Vento services

 A student can be homeless and unaccompanied





Homeless Unaccompanied Youth



Students must meet both criteria (homeless and unaccompanied) to be considered a homeless unaccompanied youth

Unaccompanied Youth

- Many youth become separated due to lack of space in living situations and/or shelter policies
- Shelters often have 30,60- or 90-day stays
- Family dysfunction: Over 2/3 of hotline calls report at least one parent abuses drugs or alcohol
- Roughly 1/3 of homeless youth identify as LGBTQIA+
- Approximately 10% of homeless teens are pregnant





Celia is 15 and has a mother who struggles with substance abuse. As a result, she often has strangers in the home and participates in activities that cause Celia to feel anxious and uncomfortable. Eventually, Celia concluded that she would be safer living on her own. She ran away and is now sleeping on the streets in downtown Richmond. She is not currently attending school but wants to re-enroll as soon as possible.

What information or education-based assistance can be offered?

Dispute Resolution

- When a dispute arises between the school and the youth over eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, the student must be
 - Enrolled immediately in the requested school, pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals
 - Provided with a written explanation of any dispute-related decisions made by the school, the district, or the state educational agency involved, including the rights of the youth to appeal
 - Referred to the local liaison, who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible, and ensure that the youth is enrolled immediately in the requested school pending the resolution of the dispute

42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(E)

 Students must receive all services for which they are eligible until final resolution of all disputes and appeals.



Putting the Pieces Together

 How to take the educational needs of children into account when placing families in housing

Be intentional about including the liaison





Best Practices Review

- Immediate Enrollment
- Transportation Assistance
- Tutoring
- Providing students with school supplies, hygiene kits, clothing as needed to attend and fully participate in school.



CoC Program Staff: Tips for Successful Partnerships

- Learn more about the education portion of the McKinney-Vento Act. The more CoC program staff learn about the education portion of the Act, the more they will understand about available services and be able to "speak the same language" as their education partners.
- Share information and data on housing programs to increase awareness of challenges and highlight opportunities to address gaps in services through collaboration with local liaisons.



CoC Program Staff: Tips for Successful Partnerships

- Become familiar with the educational challenges that homeless children and youth face; identify ways that your CoC program can support these children and youth.
- Invite local liaisons to CoC meetings and institute a recurring agenda item focused on education; consider establishing an education subcommittee.
- Develop a protocol for case managers and local liaisons to evaluate the best interest of the child in terms of school placement

CoC Program Staff: Tips for Successful Partnerships

Develop memoranda of understanding(MOUs).

CoCs and their members and local school districts may wish to enter into MOUs to establish protocols for student identification, service referrals, and data or information sharing. These MOUs should specify mutually-accepted expectations, protocols, parameters, and best practices for achieving the shared goals of CoCs and school districts.



Why It Is Important For Service Providers To Identify MV Students?

- Youth cannot be served if we don't know who they are.
 - They have rights and services through Title I, McKinney-Vento Act, IDEA, Child Nutrition programs
- It can affect a student's eligibility for college financial aid
 - UHY are automatically eligible to apply for aid as independent students.
- It's the law for HUD funded service providers.
 - Continuums of Care & service providers to collaborate with districts to assist in the identification of homeless families and inform them of their eligibility for services.





THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Seeking Youth Representative for COH!

SEEKING YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE FOR COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

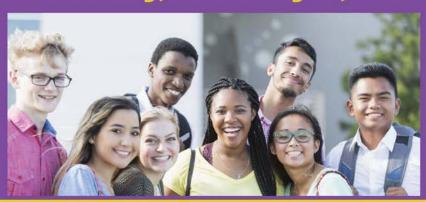
The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (COH) is seeking applicants for their Youth Representative Seat.

Details

- Applicant must be between the ages of 17 and 24 and have lived experience of homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- Monthly in person meetings, \$23/hr (3-15 hrs/month) plus Uber to meetings
- Help available with application process.

For more information email <u>cchomelesscouncil@cchealth.org</u> or text/call 925-464-0152.

Accepting applications until Thursday, February 15, 2024



Get Information and Application at https://bit.ly/cohyouth2024







Closing and Survey

Jaime Jenett, Health Housing and Homeless Services

https://forms.office.com/g/Sj11YcspS5