

ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Board of Education believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the District must enroll each homeless student in the District in the school determined to be in the student's best interest. A homeless student is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes children and youths who are:

1. "doubling up" or sharing the housing with another family due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
2. living in a motel, hotel, trailer park or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. abandoned in hospitals;
5. living in 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;
6. living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings and
7. migratory students.

In compliance with the Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (codified as 42 United States Code 11431 et seq) the District must make school placement determinations on the basis of the best interest of the student. To the extent feasible, homeless students are kept in the school of origin unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent or guardian.

To the extent feasible, the District complies with a request made by a parent(s) regarding school placement regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parent(s) or is temporarily residing elsewhere.

The Board ensures that:

1. it reviews and revises Board policies and regulations to eliminate barriers to the enrollment, retention and success in school of homeless students;
2. the District does not segregate homeless students into separate schools or separate programs within a school, based on the student's status as homeless;
3. the District appoints a District liaison who ensures that homeless students enroll and succeed in school and
4. homeless students are provided with education, nutrition and transportation services that are at least comparable to the services provided to nonhomeless students, and consistent with the provisions of Title VII, Subtitle B, Section 722(g)(1)(J)(iii) and 722(g)(3) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and such assistance shall

continue for the remainder of the academic year, if the student becomes permanently housed during the academic year.

The District liaison ensures compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education subgrant and coordinates services for homeless students with local social service agencies and programs, including those funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 USC 5601).

A student who ceases to be homeless may continue to receive services until the end of the period of time for which the service was originally intended to be provided, which may be the end of the school year or the end of a program cycle.

The District complies with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan and State and Federal laws for the education of homeless students.

The District shall

1. provide documentation/evidence of communication disseminated/posted by the District concerning this policy;
2. provide evidence of program/information provided to District staff regarding the specific needs of homeless students; and
3. establish a dispute resolution procedure to facilitate the timely resolution of disputes regarding the educational placement of homeless children and youths

[Adoption date: October 4, 2001; amended April 28, 2015; amended March 21, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: 20 USC 1221 et seq.
42 USC 11431 et seq.
ORC 9.60 through 9.62
3313.64(F)(13)
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: JB, Equal Educational Opportunities