

TEXAS EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (TEHCY) PROGRAM

SPECIAL PROGRAMS



GOAL OF TEHCY

**TO EQUIP GALVESTON ISD STAFF WITH INCREASE
AWARENESS, PROMOTE EQUITABLE ACCESS,
AND IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR ALL STUDENTS**

WHO IS COVERED BY MCKINNEY-VETO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

- **CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO LACK A FIXED, REGULAR, ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE:**
 - **SHARING THE HOUSING OF OTHERS DUE TO THE LOST OF HOUSING, ECONOMIC HARDSHIP, OR SIMILAR REASONS**
 - **LIVING IN MOTELS, HOTELS, TRAILER PARKS, CAMPING GROUND DUE TO LACK OF ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATIONS**
 - **LIVING IN EMERGENCY OR TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS, OR ABANDONED BUILDINGS**
 - **LIVING IN A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PLACE NOT DESIGNATED FOR OR ORDINARILY USED AS A REGULAR SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION FOR HUMAN BEINGS**

WHO IS AN UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH OR CHILD?

UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH INCLUDES A HOMELESS CHILD OR YOUTH NOT IN THE PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN

MCKINNEY-VENTO REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LEA'S

- **APPOINT A LOCAL MCKINNEY VENTO HOMELESS LIAISON AND ENSURE THEY HAVE THE CAPACITY TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES LISTED IN STATUTE**
- **IDENTIFY STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**
- **ENROLL STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IMMEDIATELY, EVEN WITHOUT REQUIRED RECORDS**
- **MAKE STUDENTS RECORDS AVAILABLE IN A TIMELY MANNER**
- **PROVIDE SERVICES TO STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THAT ARE COMPARABLE TO THOSE OFFERED TO OTHER STUDENTS**

MCKINNEY-VENTO REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LEA'S

- **REVIEW AND REVISE POLICIES THAT MAY ACT AS BARRIERS TO THE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**
- **CONTINUE THE STUDENT'S EDUCATION IN THEIR SCHOOL OF ORIGIN**
- **PROVIDE SCHOOL OF ORIGIN TRANSPORTATION IF IT IS REQUESTED BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH AND IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE STUDENT**
- **PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH RELATED TO THE APPEAL PROCESS IF THE LEA SENDS THE STUDENT TO A SCHOOL OTHER THAN THE SCHOOL REQUESTED**

MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISONS FACILITATE IDENTIFICATION OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS BY PROVIDING

Identification Process	Training of LEA Staff	Awareness Materials	Community Collaboration
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MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON ASSURES THE FOLLOWING

- **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE IDENTIFIED IN A COLLABORATIVE MANNER WITH SCHOOL PERSONNEL, OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, AND AGENCIES**
- **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE ENROLLED AND PROVIDED EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL**
- **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS HAVE ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR WHICH THEY ARE ELIGIBLE**
- **STUDENTS AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS RECEIVE REFERRALS FOR MEDICAL, DENTAL, MENTAL HEALTH, HOUSING SERVICES, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SERVICES**
- **PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE INFORMED OF THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO THEIR STUDENTS AND PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR STUDENT'S EDUCATION**

MCKINNEY VENTO LIAISON DUTIES

- **PROVIDES PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE POSTED IN LOCATIONS FREQUENTLY VISITED BY STUDENTS, PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH**
- **ENSURES ENROLLMENT DISPUTES ARE MEDIATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MCKINNEY VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT**
- **INFORM PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH OF ALL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AVAILABLE, INCLUDING SCHOOL OF ORIGIN TRANSPORTATION**
- **ASSIST SCHOOL PERSONNEL IN RECEIVING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER SUPPORT TO IDENTIFY MCKINNEY VENTO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**

MCKINNEY VENTO LIAISON DUTIES AND UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

- **MCKINNEY VENTO LIAISON MUST ENSURE THAT UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS:**
 - **ARE ENROLLED IN SCHOOL**
 - **HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THE SAME STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS**
 - **ARE INFORMED OF THEIR INDEPENDENT STATUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)**

MCKINNEY VENTO STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

- **LEA SHOULD HAVE PROCESSES AND STRATEGIES IN PLACE TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**
 - **UPON ENROLLMENT**
 - **ANYTIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR**
 - **IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER**

MCKINNEY VENTO STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND IDENTIFICATION REQUIRES

- **IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT**
- **DETERMINATION OF MCKINNEY VENTO
ELIGIBILITY**
- **ASSESSMENT OF SERVICES**

IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT

- **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS HAVE THE RIGHT TO IMMEDIATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**
 - **EVEN IF LACKING PAPERWORK NORMALLY REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT**
 - **PROVISIONAL ENROLLMENT WITHOUT:**
 - **IMMUNIZATIONS**
 - **BIRTH CERTIFICATE**
 - **EVEN IF HAVING MISSED APPLICATION OR ENROLLMENT DEADLINES DURING ANY PERIOD OF HOMELESSNESS**

STATE SCHOOL SELECTION PROVISION

IN TEXAS WE HAVE A STATE SCHOOL SELECTION PROVISION:

- **IF A FAMILY IS HOMELESS, THEY CAN SELECT TO ENROLL IN ANY LEA IN THE STATE.**
- **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS WOULD BE ENROLLING UNDER THE STATE PROVISION.**
- **THE MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON WILL ASSIST IN SELECTING THE CAMPUS THAT BEST MEETS THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.**
- **MCKINNEY-VENTO TRANSPORTATION DOES NOT APPLY.**

STUDENT RESIDENCY QUESTIONNAIRE (SRQ)

- **ONCE THE FAMILY OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH HAS COMPLETED A SRQ, THE MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON WILL PROCEED WITH DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY BY ASSESSING THE FOLLOWING;**
 - **WHAT IS THE FAMILY'S OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH'S CURRENT LIVING SITUATION?**
 - **IS IT TEMPORARY LIVING SITUATION DUE TO A RECENT LOSS OF HOUSING?**
 - **IS IT FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE?**
 - **IS THE FAMILY OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH LIVING IN A HOTEL, SHELTER, UNSHELTERED, OR DOUBLED-UP LIVING SITUATION?**

MCKINNEY-VENTO CLARIFIES THE SRQ INTAKE FORM

- **CLARIFY RESPONSES ON THE SRQ**
- **DOCUMENT SCHOOL OF ORIGIN**
- **IDENTIFY ALL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS IN THE FAMILY**
- **REVIEW PROGRAM SERVICES**
- **DOCUMENT REFERRALS AND SERVICES PROVIDED**
- **DOCUMENT NON-QUALIFICATIONS CRITERIA AND INTAKE NOTES**

EVENTS THAT MAY LEAD TO LOSS OF HOUSING

- **UNEMPLOYMENT**
- **DIVORCE**
- **DOMESTIC ABUSE**
- **MEDICAL ISSUES**
- **LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
- **NATURAL DISASTER**

IDENTIFICATION OF UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

- **REVIEW EACH SITUATION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS**
- **REVIEW THEIR LIVING SITUATION AND NIGHTTIME RESIDENCY**
- **STUDENT MUST BE BOTH UNACCOMPANIED AND EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**

MCKINNEY VENTO STUDENT CODING

- **STUDENT ELIGIBLE FOR MCKINNEY VENTO SERVICES SHOULD BE ASSESSED ANNUALLY**
- **MCKINNEY VENTO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS SHOULD BE CODED AT THE TIME OF IDENTIFICATION**
- **IDENTIFICATION AND CODING IS FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR**
- **MCKINNEY VENTO CODING DOES NOT CARRY OVER FROM YEAR TO YEAR**

TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LEA'S

- **TRANSPORTATION MUST BE PROVIDED TO AND FROM THE SCHOOL OF ORIGIN AT THE REQUEST OF THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN, OR, IN THE CASE OF AN UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH, AT THE REQUEST OF THE LOCAL LIAISON**
 - **STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOOL OF ORIGIN TRANSPORTATION**
 - **COLLABORATION MUST OCCUR BETWEEN LEA'S TO ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION**
 - **LEA'S MUST AGREE ON A METHOD TO SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY AND COST**
 - **GISD HAS ESTABLISHED THIS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THIS AREA.**

BEST INTEREST DETERMINATION

- IN DETERMINING BEST INTEREST, THE LEA SHALL:
 - PRESUME THAT KEEPING A CHILD OR YOUTH IN THEIR SCHOOL OF ORIGIN IS IN THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S BEST INTEREST, EXCEPT WHEN DOING SO IS CONTRARY TO THE REQUEST OF THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH.
 - CONSIDER STUDENT-CENTERED FACTORS RELATED TO THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S BEST INTEREST, INCLUDING FACTORS RELATED TO THE IMPACT OF MOBILITY ON ACHIEVEMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND SAFETY, GIVING PRIORITY TO THE REQUEST OF THE PARENT, GUARDIAN OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH.

DURATION OF SCHOOL OF ORIGIN RIGHTS

- **HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH HAVE THE RIGHT TO ATTEND THEIR SCHOOL OF ORIGIN FOR THE DURATION OF HOMELESSNESS:**
 - **WHEN A FAMILY BECOMES HOMELESS BETWEEN ACADEMIC YEARS OR DURING AN ACADEMIC YEAR.**
 - **FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR, IF THE CHILD OR YOUTH BECOMES PERMANENTLY HOUSED DURING AN ACADEMIC YEAR.**

SCHOOL OR ORIGIN CONSIDERATIONS

- **PERSONAL SAFETY ISSUES**
- **AGE OF STUDENT**
- **TIME OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**
- **TRAVEL TIME**

LEA STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT SCHOOL OF ORIGIN SERVICES

- **DEVELOP LEA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL OF ORIGIN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**
- **PARTNER WITH NEIGHBORING LEA'S TO COORDINATE OUT OF DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**
- **MONITOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REGULARLY TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF SERVICE**
- **PROVIDE BUSING INFORMATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF NEW STUDENT OR FAMILY MEMBER TO THE APPROPRIATE CAMPUS AND LEA CONTACT**

MCKINNEY VENTO POST SECONDARY PLANNING AND SUPPORT

- **SCHOOL COUNSELORS MUST ASSIST STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS WITH COLLEGE PREPARATION AND READINESS**
- **LOCAL LIAISONS MUST INFORM UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH ABOUT THEIR INDEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS ON THE FAFSA AND ASSIST WITH VERIFICATION OF THE STATUS**

MCKINNEY VENTO DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS FOR ELIGIBILITY, ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL SELECTION

- **EACH LEA HAS LOCAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS DISPUTES OR COMPLAINTS.**
- **THIS IS A THREE TIERED PROCESS.**
 - **MCKINNEY VENTO LIAISON**
 - **LEA OR CAMPUS LEADERSHIP**
 - **SUPERINTENDENT OR SCHOOL BOARD**

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

- **MCKINNEY VENTO LIAISON MUST PROVIDE THE PARENT, GUARDIAN OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH A WRITTEN NOTICE INCLUDING;**
 - **AN EXPLANATION OF THE DECISION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY, SCHOOL SELECTION, OR ENROLLEMENT, AND**
 - **THE RIGHT OF THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH TO APPEAL OR DISPUTE THE DECISION.**

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS (CONT.)

- **ONCE THE ENROLLENT DECISION IS MADE, THE LEA MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON WILL ENSURE THAT THE NOTICE;**
 - **INCLUDES AN EXPLANATION OF THE REASONS FOR THE DETERMINATION**
 - **INCLUDES A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPEALS PROCESS, APPEAL TIMELINES, AND INFORMATION ON HOW AND WHO TO APPEAL THE DECISION**
 - **IS PROVIDED TO THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH PROMPTLY IN A WAY THAT IS UNDERSTANDABLE.**

TEA MCKINNEY-VENTO DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS AND FAQ RESOURCES

- **IF A DISPUTE IS NOT RESOLVED LOCALLY, A COMPLAINT MAY BE FILED WITH TEA**
- **ONLY DISPUTES THAT HAVE GONE THROUGH ALL THREE LEVELS WILL BE REVIEWED BY TEA**
- **TEA'S DECISIONS REGARDING MCKINNEY VENTO DISPUTES ARE FINAL**

QUESTIONS

CONTACT US AT **HOMELESSLIAISON@GISD.ORG**

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