

Homeless Education:

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Welcome to Homeless Education

The Homeless Education Program at Jordan Public Schools is located at the high school office, 324 Marguerite Street, Jordan, MT.

The purpose of the program is to ensure that all homeless children have equal access to free and appropriate education.

How do we determine if a child is homeless?

To make this determination we consider the following factors using the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act definition:

Under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (2001, Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act - Sec 725), a child may be classified as homeless using the following definition:

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes those individuals:

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing or economic hardship (two or more families living in a home)
- Living in motels/hotels due to lack of alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in cars, tents or abandoned buildings
- Living in campgrounds or cars
- Living in substandard housing (lacks electricity or running water)
- Unaccompanied youth (not living in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian and lacking a regular, fixed, nighttime residence)

Please be aware that any parent, guardian or student in need of assistance may contact the building principal or the district's Homeless Education Liaison.

Resources:

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth (NAEHCY)
<http://naehcy.org>

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) 1-800-308-2145 <http://naehcy.org>

Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Homeless Assistance
http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/#gpm1_7

Garfield County—

Department of Child Family Services	708 Palmer Street, Miles City	234-1385
Jordan Food Bank	Garfield County Courthouse	557-2050
Sheriff's Office	Garfield County Courthouse	557-2540

What are educational rights of the homeless?

Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived here.
- Continue in the school they attended before they became homeless or the school they last attended, if that is the parent's or youth's choice and is feasible.
- Receive transportation to the school they attended before becoming homeless (school of origin).
- Enroll in school without a permanent address.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or any other document required for enrollment.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other children or youths served in these programs.
- Attend school with children not experiencing homelessness; segregation based on a student's status as homeless is prohibited.