



**Children and youth
experiencing homelessness
have the right to a
*Free, Appropriate
Public Education***

Purpose of this Session

To provide an update and overview
of the requirements of the
McKinney-Vento Homeless
Education Act

Today's Agenda

Basic requirements

Board policy

**District and liaison
responsibilities**

Dispute resolution

Enrollment

Title I Set Aside

Transportation

PACTS

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

Title X, Part C No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Who is homeless?

Individuals who lack fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residences, including children and youth

Who is homeless?

- **Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship**
- **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**

Who is homeless?

- **Awaiting foster care**
- **Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations**
- **Living at night in public or private place not designed or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations**
- **Migratory children who qualify as homeless**

How many are homeless?

School Level	Number of homeless children/youth enrolled in public school (total for LEAs with and without sub grants)
K-5	9988
6-8	3991
9-12	5124
Total	19103

NOTE: Table denotes the number of homeless children and youth in Ohio enrolled in public school (compulsory grades) during 2009-2010 school year according to grade-level groups.

Where are they living?

Primary Nighttime Residence of Homeless Children and Youth	Number of homeless children/youth excluding preschoolers (total for LEAs with and without sub grants)
Shelters	5951
Doubled-up	12326
Unsheltered (e.g., cars, parks, campgrounds)	209
Hotels/Motels	627

NOTE: Table denotes the primary night residence at the time of the initial identification by LEAs during the 2009-2010 school year of all homeless children and youth in Ohio (excluding preschoolers).

McKinney-Vento Act

- Reauthorizes McKinney Act originally enacted in 1987
- Requires educational access, attendance and success for children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Provides states with funding to support local grants and statewide initiatives

McKinney-Vento Act

- **Comparable services**
- **Parental involvement**
- **Liaison collaboration between social service agencies and school districts**
- **Restriction of segregation of homeless students**

Enrollment

Enroll students experiencing homelessness immediately even when lacking:

- **Proof of residency**
- **Guardianship**
- **Birth certificates, school records or other documents**
- **Medical records, including immunization records**
- **Required dress code items, including uniforms**

Enrollment

Place students in:

- **School of origin, if the parent wishes and if it is feasible**
- **School in area of current residency**

Enrollment

- **Obtain missing documentation and records**
- **Discuss guardianship issues with:**
 - **Adult who is not the parent**
 - **Unaccompanied youth**
- **Verify residency requirements, such as address and school of origin**

District Responsibilities

- Remove barriers to enrollment
- Make school records available in timely manner
- Provide comparable and coordinated services
- Ensure homeless students are not segregated in separate schools or programs

District Liaison Responsibilities

- Assist homeless students with immediate enrollment and attendance to school
- Provide written notification to parents and youth regarding placement decisions
- Review and revise local policies

District Liaison Responsibilities

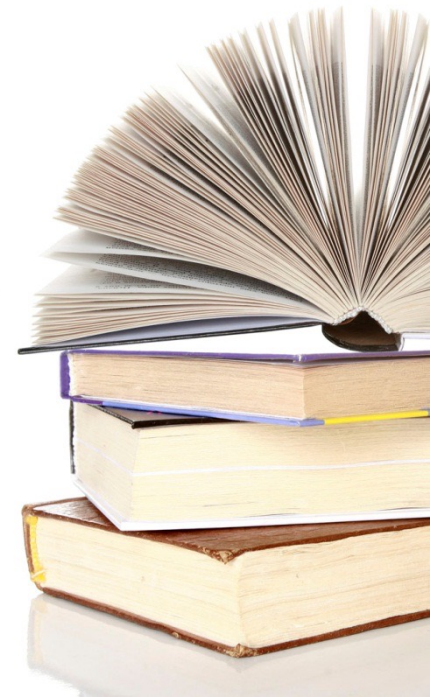
- Promote school and community awareness
- Provide awareness and training to school personnel
- Disseminate public notices of rights
- Coordinate with shelters, hotels, motels and homeless serving agencies

District Liaison Responsibilities

- Identification
- Full and equal access to services, including appropriate referrals
- Inform parents and guardians of rights, including transportation

District Liaison Responsibilities

- Inform unaccompanied youth of rights and assist with enrollment
- Ensure compliance with state's dispute-resolution process



Data Collection

- **Collect information on homeless children and youth, including places of residence**
- **Include homeless students in statewide assessments**
- **Use EMIS to collect local data and submit to state**

Transportation

- **Share responsibility**
- **Provide comparable service**
- **Make arrangements**
- **Coordinate with transportation directors**



Board Policy

Ohio School Boards Association

(614) 540-4000

Ohio Revised Code § 3313.64

Free schooling for residents or pursuant to agreement between superintendents; tuition for non-residents

Dispute Resolution

- Process in place for prompt resolution of disputes
- Sample policy on ODE website at www.education.ohio.gov, keyword search *dispute resolution*

Title I Part A Set Aside

- **CCIP note # 78 June 29, 2006**
- **Funds to provide services to homeless children who are not attending participating Title I school**

Program Audit and Compliance Tracking System (PACTS)

- Self evaluation
- Telephone survey
- On-site review



Tips for Identifying Homeless Children and Youth

- Analyze information on record
- Know your community – **Network!**
- Disseminate brochures and posters with your contact information to community

Tips for Identifying Homeless Children and Youth

Train school enrollment personnel to:

- **Look for signs**
- **Offer assistance**
- **Contact you**

Possible Signs of Homelessness

The following characteristics may be seen in students experiencing homelessness.

They also may be seen in students with issues other than homelessness.

Possible Signs of Homelessness

- Attendance at several schools
- More than one family at same address
- Attention-seeking behavior
- Hunger and hoarding of food
- Poor hygiene and grooming
- Sleeping in class

Possible Signs of Homelessness

- Inappropriate dress for weather
- Some common statements used by homeless students include:
 - *We've moved a lot.*
 - *We're staying with relatives/friends while looking for a place.*
 - *We're going through a bad time now.*

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McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Program Overview

The purpose of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Program is to ensure that all children and youth have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education, including preschool education as non-homeless children and youth.

State and local educational agencies are required to develop, review and revise policies to remove barriers to the enrollment, attendance and success in school that homeless children and youth may experience. Local educational agencies must also provide homeless children and youth with the opportunity to meet the same challenging state content and state student performance standards to which all students are held.

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