



# **West Point Consolidated School District**

## **Federal Programs SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

### **EL, Immigrant, Migrant, Homeless and Foster Care**

#### **Quick Reference**

EL Coordinator, Homeless Liaison, and Foster Care Point of Contact  
Reita M. Humphries

## **EL – English Learners**

According to Public Law 107-110, Title IX, Part A, Section 9101, schools must identify all English Learners and screen for language assistance.

### **EL Students:**

- Are 3 to 21 years of age; and
- Are enrolled in school; and
- Who were not born in the US or whose native language is a language other than English;
- Who is a Native American or Alaska Native or a native resident of the outlying areas;
- Come from an environment where a language other than English has impacted them;
- Have difficulty in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding English that denies student achievement.

### **Identification of MS EL**

- At the beginning of the school year, identification, screening, and parental notification of eligible students is required within 30 days of enrollment
- After schools begins, identification, screening, and parental notification is required within two weeks of enrollment.

### **Enrollment of EL Students**

- Schools are required to enroll EL students even if the student does not have a social security number or current immunization records.
- Time must be allowed for EL students to provide registration information
- Students should be placed age appropriate.

**Placement of EL Students**

- After a student is identified as EL, parents will be notified of the type of program services available and other options for the EL students.
- The WPCSD EL Program uses pull-out services. Students receive their primary instruction in the regular classroom by the regular classroom teacher.
- The district will provide an EL tutor as funding becomes available.

**Immigrant Children and Youth:**

- Are 3 to 21;
- Who were not born in any US State; and
- Have not attended school in the US for more than 3 full academic years

**Migrant Students:**

A migratory child is a child who is, or whose parent, spouse, or guardian is, a migratory agricultural worker or migratory fisher, and who, in the preceding 36 months, has moved from one school district to another, to obtain or accompany such parent, spouse, or guardian, in order to obtain temporary or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work as a principal means of livelihood. Federal Register, Part VII, July 3, 1995

**Migrant Services**

- When a student meets the definition of migrant, his/her family will be contacted by the Mississippi Migrant Education Center (MMEC) area coordinator. The coordinator will conduct a formal interview to determine eligibility.
- If determined eligible, the MMEC will work with the school to monitor student progress.

**McKinney-Vento Act:**

Defines “homeless children and youth” as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime resident.

## **Homeless Students**

Children and youth who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason (sometimes referred to as doubled-up);
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Abandoned in hospitals; or
- Awaiting foster care placement
- Children and youth who have 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;
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

## **Homeless Student Rights:**

- Waiver of proof of residency
- Automatic eligibility for free lunch
- May attend their school of origin or the school where they are temporarily residing
- Must be provided a written statement of rights when they enroll
- May enroll without school, medical, or similar records

## **Homeless Information**

Schools must post information in the community regarding the rights of homeless students, in schools and other places that homeless families may frequent.

## **Unaccompanied Youth:**

A youth not in the physical custody of his/her parent or legal guardian who is living in the same circumstances as defined by homeless.

**Foster Care Students:**

The *Every Student Succeeds Act* requires collaboration between LEAs and state child welfare agencies.

- A child in foster care remains in his or her school of origin unless the LEA and Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services (MDCPS) determine that remaining in the school of origin is not in that child's best interest;
- If the LEA and MDCPS determine it is not in the child's best interest to stay in his or her school of origin, the child is immediately enrolled in the new school, even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment; and,
- The new enrolling school immediately contacts the school of origin to obtain relevant academic and other records.
- If the child remains in their school of origin and moves outside the current school's attendance zone, the LEA must collaborate with the local MDCPS to develop and implement clear written transportation procedures in accordance with 34 C.F.R. § 299.13(c)(1)(ii).
- A child in foster care automatically is eligible for free lunch,
- Must be identified and tracked in the student information data system.
- Are not considered homeless