

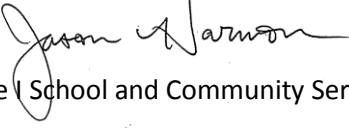


THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234
Office of P-12 Education

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NYS FIELD MEMO
ESSA McKinney-Vento
#03 -2017

To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of LEAs and Charter Schools
Title I Coordinators
McKinney-Vento Liaisons
Committee on Special Education (CSE) Chairs

From: Jason Harmon 
Supervisor, Title I School and Community Services

Date: September 9, 2017

Subject: Mandatory McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Training

Under the federal McKinney-Vento Act as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act, McKinney-Vento liaisons are required to participate in professional development so that they can better identify and meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness (42 U.S.C. §§ 11432[f][6] & [g][6][A][ix]). **The Department requires that the McKinney-Vento liaison from each local educational agency (LEA)¹ attend one of the professional development sessions (workshop, onsite regional training or webinar) offered by the Department's technical assistance center, NYS-TEACHS, to comply with the federal training requirement.** Federal law also now requires that McKinney-Vento liaisons ensure that LEA personnel providing McKinney-Vento services (e.g., superintendents, registrars, transportation directors, CSE chairs, school counselors, school social workers, principals, school attorneys, and Title I directors, teachers) receive professional development. Liaisons can do this by either providing the training to staff themselves or by ensuring that LEA staff participate in one of the trainings offered by NYS-TEACHS.

NYS-TEACHS offers half-day McKinney-Vento workshops, which are planned for **Syracuse on November 8 and Buffalo on November 15**. Please be aware that McKinney-Vento funds and/or Title I, Part A funds may be used for travel-related expenses and staff replacement costs related to your attendance at one of the workshops. In addition to the Workshops, on-site regional trainings and hour-long webinars will be offered throughout the 2017-2018 school year. Information about all of these events, which are free of charge, is available on the NYS-TEACHS website and is updated throughout the year: <http://www.nysteachs.org/trainings/>.

¹ LEAs include school districts, charter schools, and BOCES.

Subjects covered in professional development sessions include:

- ✓ An introduction to McKinney-Vento and related NYS Education laws,
- ✓ Understanding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and McKinney-Vento,
- ✓ Determining McKinney-Vento eligibility,
- ✓ Liaison responsibilities,
- ✓ Transportation of students in temporary housing,
- ✓ College access,
- ✓ Dispute resolution,
- ✓ Youth perspectives on homelessness and education,
- ✓ Funding sources for instructional and transportation services for students in temporary housing,
- ✓ The rights of homeless unaccompanied youth,
- ✓ Trauma-sensitive strategies for school success,
- ✓ Using trauma-sensitive strategies with parents and caregivers,
- ✓ Accessing services for families,
- ✓ Early childhood education, and
- ✓ Other timely topics relating to students experiencing homelessness.

To register for a webinar, training, or workshop, please visit the NYS-TEACHS website: <http://www.nysteachs.org/trainings/>.

For LEAs receiving McKinney-Vento Grant funds ([http://www.nysteachs.org/media/2016-19.FundedDistricts\(website\)_FINAL.xlsx](http://www.nysteachs.org/media/2016-19.FundedDistricts(website)_FINAL.xlsx)), there will be a mandatory meeting in Albany in Spring 2018 focused on designing and implementing programs that help students in temporary housing succeed in school. The meeting will be either one full-day or two half-days so please plan for one-over-night stay in Albany. McKinney-Vento grant funds may be used for this travel. The day(s) will include time to learn about new strategies for school success, plan for the following year, and network with fellow liaisons to share successes and challenges. More information will be forthcoming. Please note that LEAs receiving McKinney-Vento Grants are invited and encouraged to also attend the fall workshops, but are not required to do so.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Melanie Faby at (518) 473-0295, or NYS-TEACHS at 1-800-388-2014, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thank you in advance for your support and participation.

cc: M. Faby