

Supporting Students in Temporary Housing:



Meeting the Needs of Recently Arrived Children and Youth

Presented By: NYS TEACHS
Thursday, March 16, 2023
9:30am - 11:00am



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical Assistance
Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Webinar Format



□ Today's session will be recorded.



□ Your microphone will be automatically muted.



□ Your camera will be automatically disabled.



□ The in-webinar chat will allow you to communicate with the panelists and the host only.



For questions, please email Rita Danis at RDanis@measinc.com. She will get back to you as soon as she is able.

Housekeeping



- We will launch poll questions periodically throughout the session and ask you to put your answers in the chat.
- We won't be able to answer questions about specific situations in the chat, but we welcome you to call the Help Line to discuss these issues at 800-388-2014.
- The Help Line is open 24 hours a day. Specialists are available from 9:00am – 5:00pm. If you leave a message, you will be called back by the next business day.
- Following today's webinar, today's recorded session, attachments and Q&As will be posted/accessible.



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Who Is In The Room?

Are you a...

- ☐ New McKinney-Vento Liaison (1st Year)
- ☐ McKinney-Vento Liaison (2-4 years)
- ☐ McKinney-Vento Liaison (5–9 years)
- ☐ McKinney-Vento Liaison (10+ years)
- ☐ Other School/District Staff



Which region are you from?

- * Western
- * Finger Lakes
- * Central
- * Southern Tier
- * Mohawk Valley
- * Capital
- * Hudson Valley
- * New York City
- * Long Island
- * North Country

Session Outcomes



By the end of today's webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify the key provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act as it relates to the rights of recently arrived children and youth.
- Describe the educational barriers that impact academic growth and determine strategies to ensure success.
- Utilize strategies to support recently arrived students experiencing temporary housing.
- Use resources to meet the needs of recently arrived children and youth.

Today's Agenda



Welcome! Who is in the Room?



Educational Rights of Immigrants



McKinney-Vento Act



McKinney-Vento Benefits



Strategies for Success



Summary, Survey, and Resources



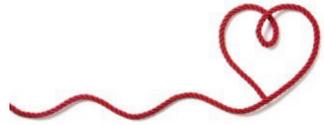
NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Experience of Coming to a New Country



People You Love



Possessions You Cherish



Your Home



How are you feeling?

What are you wondering about?

Please respond in the chat. 😊

NYS Public School English Language Learners Enrollment (2020-2021)

AMERICAN
INDIAN OR
ALASKA NATIVE

984 <1%

BLACK OR
AFRICAN
AMERICAN

12,889 5%

HISPANIC OR
LATINO

156,597 65%

ASIAN OR NATIVE
HAWAIIAN/OTHER
PACIFIC ISLANDER

46,454 19%

WHITE

22,393 9%

MULTIRACIAL

718 <1%

K-12 ELL Enrollment: 240,035
K-12 Former ELL Enrollment: 81,655

Other Groups

Students With Disabilities

56,963 24%

Economically
Disadvantaged

206,534 86%

[NYSED Data Source](#)



NYSTEACHS.org

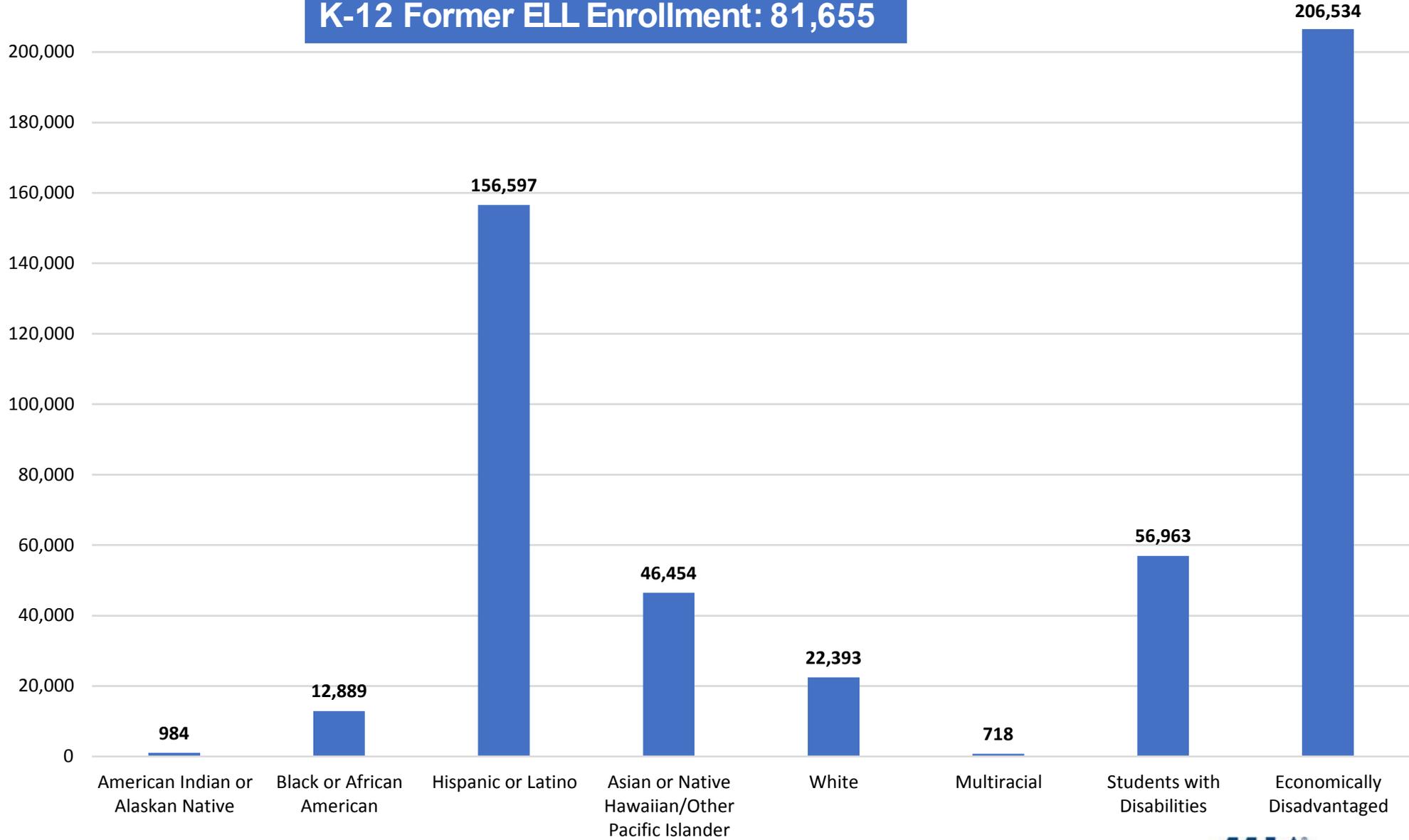
The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

NYS Public School English Language Learners Enrollment (2020-2021)

K-12 ELL Enrollment: 240,035
K-12 Former ELL Enrollment: 81,655



[NYSED Data Source](#)



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Understanding Terminology

Immigrant: An immigrant student is one who was not born in the United States and has not been attending school in the United States for more than three full academic years.

Refugee: A refugee student is one who is generally unable or unwilling to return to his/her own country due to persecution or fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

Unaccompanied Alien Child (UAC): A UAC is a child who has no lawful immigration status in the United States, has not attained 18 years of age, and either has no parent or legal guardian in the United States or no parents or legal guardian in the United States who is available to provide care and physical custody. [The term “unaccompanied” in this context refers to their immigration status, not their McKinney-Vento status.]

[Source: NCHE Brief: Supporting the Education of Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Let's Talk About It

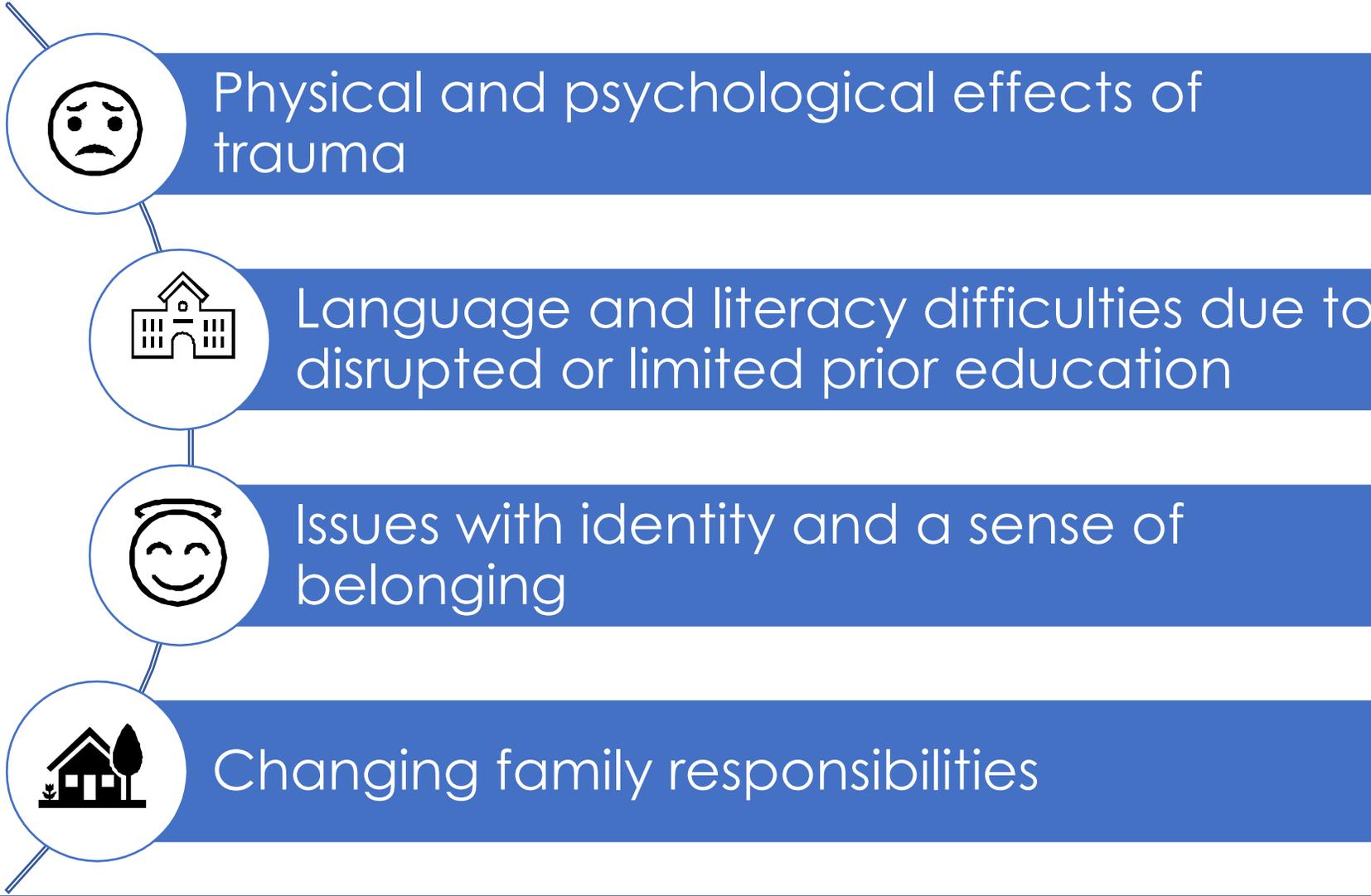
What are some educational barriers that recently arrived children and youth face when enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school?



Please
respond in
the chat.



Possible Challenges for Immigrant Students



Educational Rights of Immigrant Students



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Protections for Immigrant Students

School Districts...

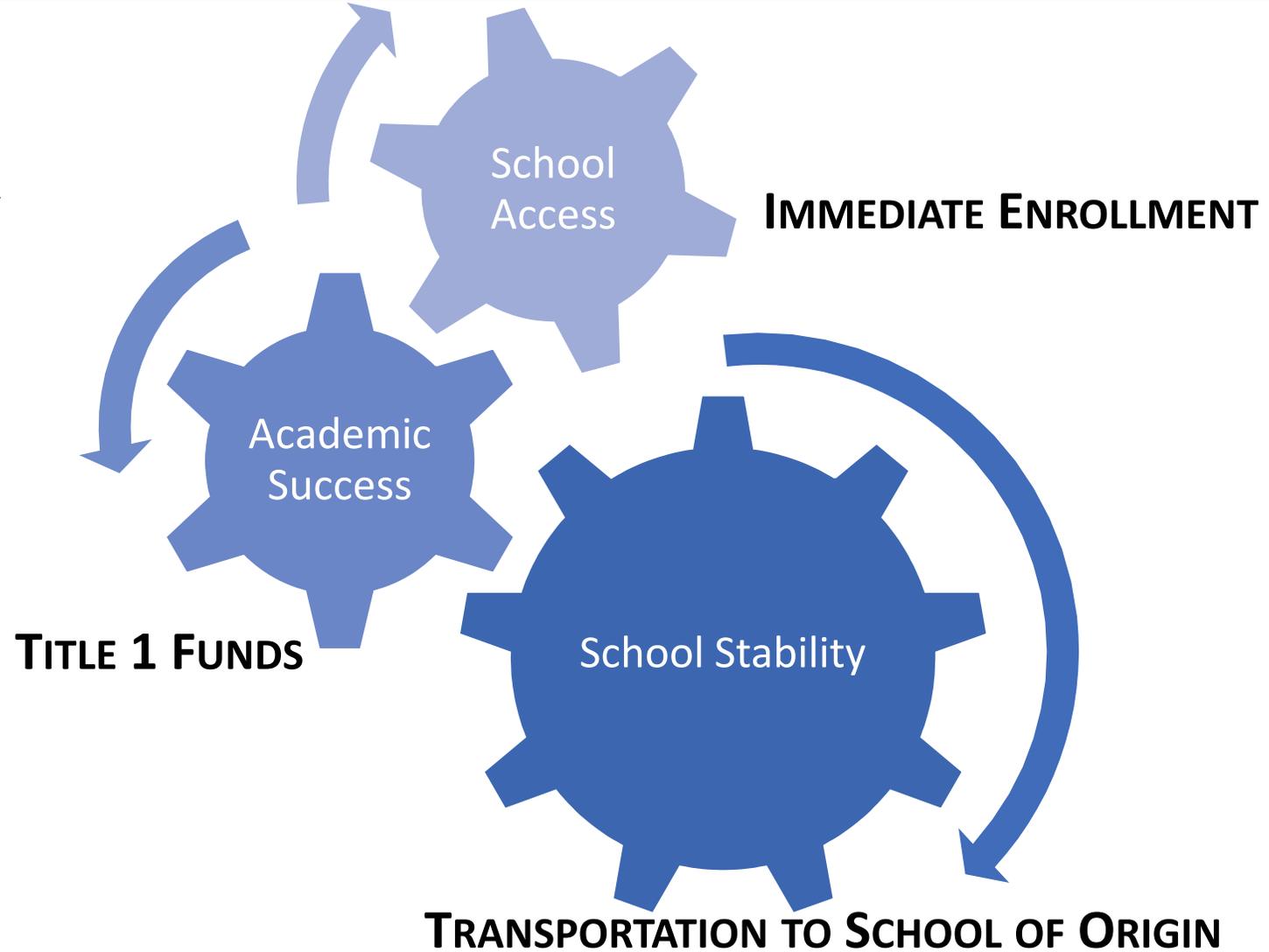
- cannot ask about a student's or family's **immigration status** or take other actions that could discourage the student from seeking enrollment.
- cannot require Social Security numbers, immigration, or citizenship documentation.
- cannot contact ICE or other law enforcement officials about a student's or family's immigration status.
- address barriers to full participation in school activities, including transportation, regardless of immigration status.

McKinney-Vento Act



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- Federal law established in 1987
- Reauthorized in 2015 as part of ESSA



McKinney-Vento Students' Rights

- Free appropriate education
- Immediate enrollment
- Attend classes
- Receive transportation
- Receive educational services



Receive a free, appropriate public education



Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment, or having missed the application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness



Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents



Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested by the parent or guardian, or by the local liaison on behalf of an unaccompanied youth



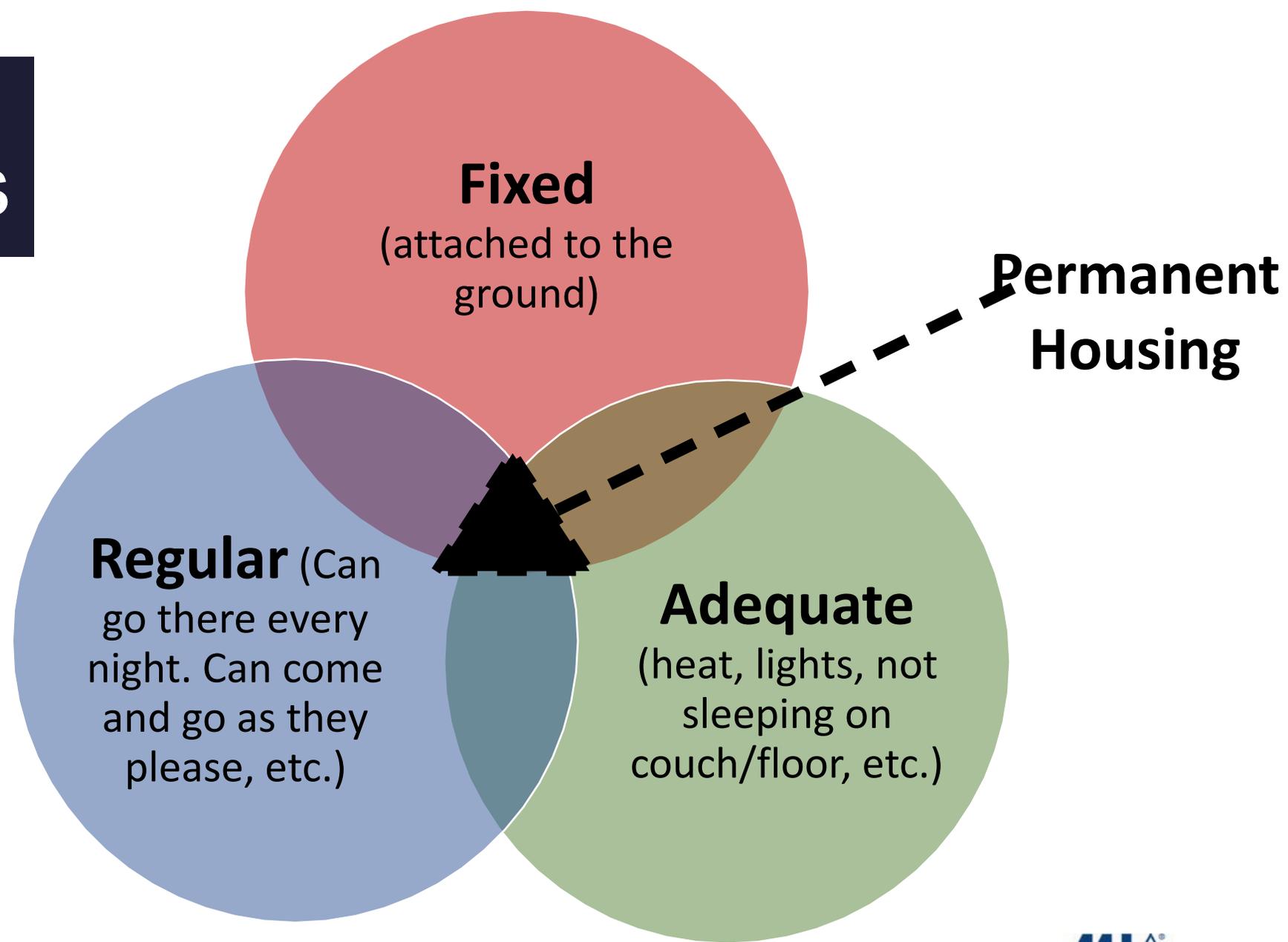
Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to each student's need

McKinney-Vento Act Definition of Homelessness



Definition of Homelessness

The term “homeless child or youth” means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate primary nighttime residence.



Homelessness: Living Conditions

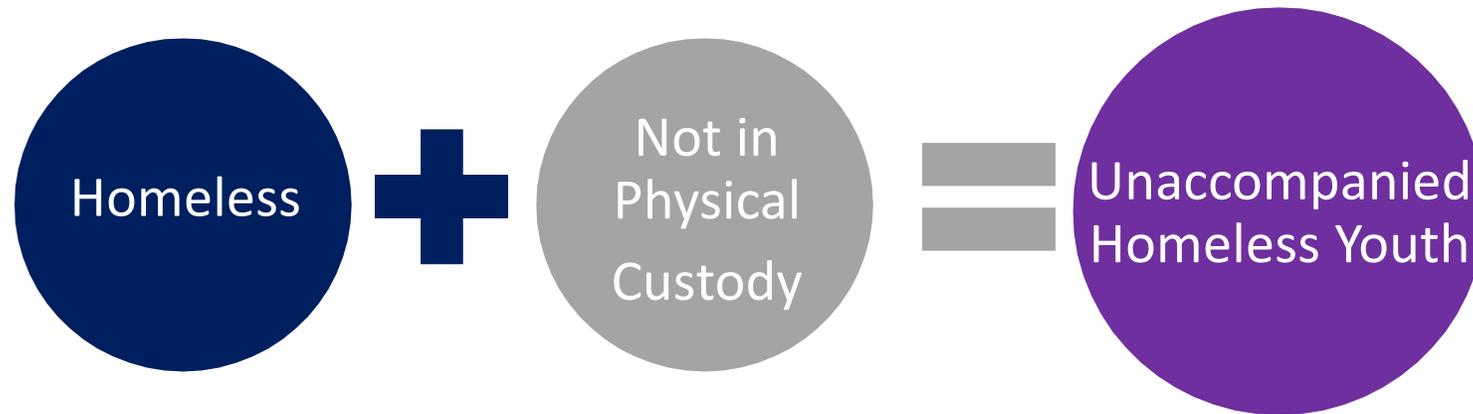
- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for sleeping
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, etc.
- Migratory children living in circumstances described above
- Unaccompanied youth living in circumstances described above

Education Law §3209(1)(a); 8 NYCRR §100.2(x)(1); see also 42 USC §11434A(2)(B)(i)

Definition of an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

An unaccompanied youth is a child or youth that is not in the physical custody of/not living with a parent or guardian.

For eligibility and services under the McKinney-Vento Act, the youth must also meet the definition of homeless.



42 U.S.C. § 11434a[6]; Education Law § 3209[1][a][1][v]; and 8 NYCRR § 100.2[x][1][iii][6]

McKinney-Vento Act: Determining Eligibility



Determining Eligibility

The McKinney-Vento liaison makes the eligibility determination. If the immigrant student's living arrangement meets the McKinney-Vento's definition of homeless, the student is eligible for rights and services under the Act.

The McKinney-Vento Act states that children and youth who lack a “fixed, regular, and adequate primary nighttime residence” will be considered homeless.



Eligible for McKinney-Vento Benefits



Homeless = lacking a “fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”



If any one of these criteria is missing, the student is eligible for McKinney-Vento benefits.



A student may be considered homeless for an unspecified amount of time as long as housing is not fixed, regular, and adequate.

Quick Poll #1

Two students arrived from Ukraine with their mom and are living with mom's sister and brother-in-law in the district. Mom returned to Ukraine to help run the family business with those still living there. Are the two students still considered McKinney-Vento eligible?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Not sure



U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Under the law, the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is required to care for unaccompanied children apprehended while crossing the border.

Unaccompanied children who are in HHS shelters would not be eligible for McKinney-Vento services, but children who are released to live with a sponsor may be eligible on a case-by-case basis under the law's broad definition, which includes youth who are living with family members in "doubled-up" housing, i.e., sharing the housing of other persons due to economic hardship or a similar reason.



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Unaccompanied Alien Child (UAC)

UAC are children under the age of 18 who lack both lawful immigration status in the United States, and a parent or legal guardian in the United States, or a parent or legal guardian in the United States who is available to provide care and physical custody.

Upon arrival, children are taken into the custody of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

ORR coordinates and implements the care and placement of UAC in appropriate custodial settings.

[Unaccompanied Alien Children: An Overview](#)

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)

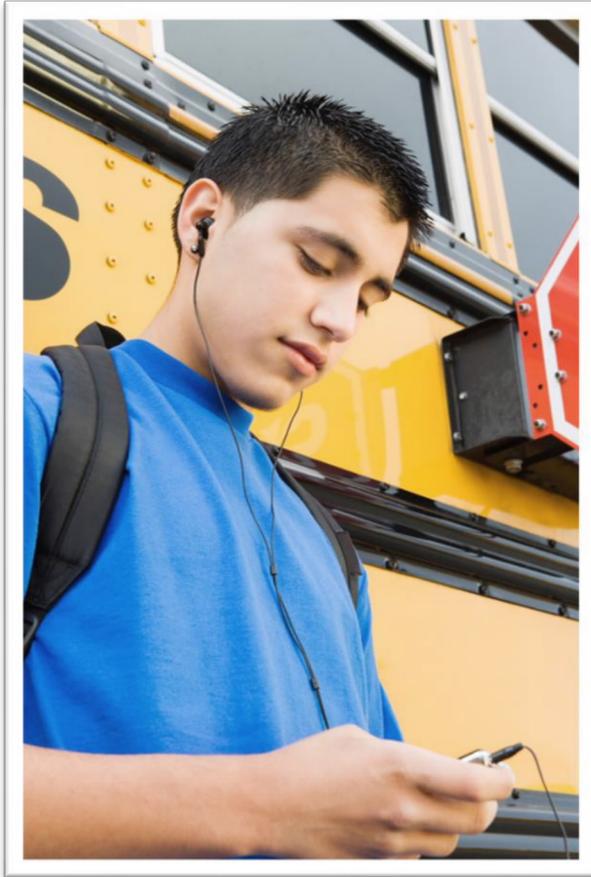
ORR facilities are considered fixed, regular, and adequate housing. Children and youth in ORR custody are not eligible for McKinney-Vento services.

Upon release from an ORR facility, children are placed with sponsors. Sponsors are obligated to provide for the housing, food, medical care, and education of the child. While most of these children will not qualify for McKinney-Vento services, some may qualify on a case-by-case basis.

For example, if the sponsor loses housing and moves into a homeless situation, the UAC would be McKinney-Vento eligible.

[Source: NCHE Brief: Supporting the Education of Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)

Let's Meet Santiago



Santiago is a 12-year-old student who arrived alone from Mexico last year. He is residing with an aunt and uncle in the district. The aunt and uncle come to enroll him in your school district.

What information would you need to enroll Santiago?

Please
respond in the
chat. 😊

Quick Poll #2

1. Should Santiago be enrolled?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Not Sure

2. Santiago doesn't have any immunizations records. What should the liaison do?
 - A. Set up an appointment for Santiago to get his immunizations before enrollment.
 - B. Enroll Santiago and wait for immunizations.
 - C. Not Sure



School Enrollment

Plyer vs. Doe
Immediate Enrollment
Strategies for School Enrollment



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Plyer vs. Doe 1982

This law declares that States may not deny access to a basic public education to any child residing in the State, whether they are present in the US legally or otherwise. McKinney-Vento Act ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing temporary housing.

Plyer makes clear, the undocumented or non-citizen status of a student (or his or her parent or guardian) is irrelevant to that student's entitlement to an elementary and secondary public education.

[Plyer v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 \(1982\)](#)



NYSTEACHS.org

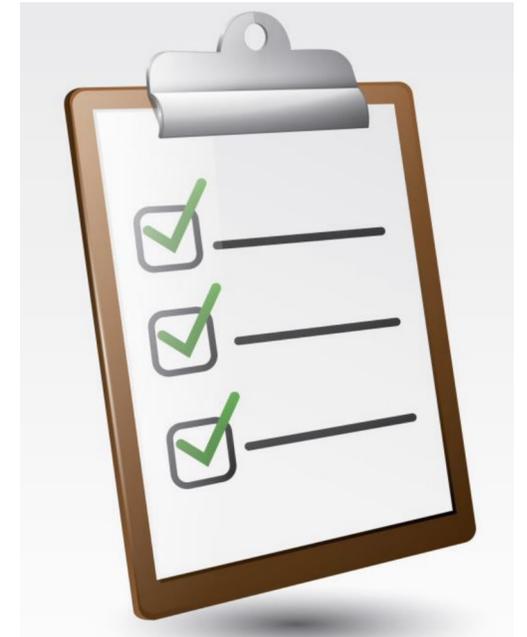
The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

School Enrollment

The McKinney-Vento Act requires that students experiencing homelessness be enrolled in school immediately, even if lacking documentation normally required for enrollment, or having missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(C)(i)(II)].



Strategies for School Enrollment

- Provide McKinney-Vento rights information to new students in home language.
- Help families to obtain necessary immunizations or screenings or other required health records.
- Refer to English language learner program if student has limited English proficiency.
- Provide a qualified interpreter for school meetings.

Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness



Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students

1. Identify Immigrant Families Experiencing Homelessness.

Families may be more open to being identified under the McKinney-Vento Act if the terminology used is more culturally-responsive. Consider asking questions such as:

- How would you describe your living situation?
- What is your current housing situation?
- Was your plan to live with family members or are you staying with family temporarily while you look for other housing?

Source: SchoolHouse Connection

<https://schoolhouseconnection.org/strategies-for-supporting-immigrant-and-migrant-students-experiencing-homelessness/>



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students

2. Collaborate Across Programs to Provide Wrap-Around Services.

Collaboration across programs (McKinney-Vento, Migrant Education, Translation and Interpretation Services, English as a Second Language Services, etc.) streamlines programming for both school staff and families.

- Consider a “one-stop-shop” where families can locate/access services in one location.
- Develop cross-trainings for programs to help staff acquire qualifications for other programs and make referrals. Consider collaborative training so school staff can learn about all programs available to families and how they intersect.

Source: SchoolHouse Connection

Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students

3. Provide Families With Information and Support They Can Access.

Once identified, liaisons should ensure that students and families receive information and support. This could include the following practices:

- Hang posters and provide brochures or other literature in the languages spoken in the community.
- Hire bilingual or multilingual staff in enrollment or front offices.
- Provide families with district resources in their native language, such as information on reporting attendance, bus route times, pick up locations, etc.
- Provide families with the contact information of bilingual staff at the school and community-based organizations, such as food pantries and housing providers.
- Provide school supplies for enrollment or office staff to hand out to students.

Source: SchoolHouse Connection

Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students

4. Remove Barriers for Immigrant Children, Youth, and Families.

- Provide translation services, including translations of key documents, and ensure documents are written at an accessible reading level.
- Offer translation services beyond written documents through a verbal interview to gather information to complete the housing questionnaire.
- Provide information about McKinney-Vento and other rights in a way that is understandable, rather than simply handing out a brochure.

Source: SchoolHouse Connection

Strategies for Supporting Immigrant Students

5. Build Relationships With Community Partners.

Relationships with community partners are crucial, and it is the responsibility of the homeless liaison to refer families experiencing homelessness to community resources. Homeless liaisons should build partnerships with services that are accessible to students and families, regardless of immigrant status. Some national organizations with local affiliates include:

- [National Immigration Law Center](#)
- [Mexican American Legal Defense Fund \(MALDEF\)](#)
- [UNIDOS US](#)
- [Catholic Legal Immigration Network \(CLINIC\)](#)
- [Immigration Advocates Network](#)

Source: SchoolHouse Connection

Check for Understanding



Check for Understanding # 1

Three students have newly arrived from Afghanistan and have enrolled in the Rochester City School District. These students are living doubled-up with a family member. Can the school district submit a STAC form for reimbursement?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Need more information
- D. Not sure



Check for Understanding #2

Fernando came across the border from El Salvador and was placed with a sponsor (relative) in a district in Long Island. Due to conflict with that relative, Fernando left and is now living doubled-up with another family member in a different Long Island district. Does Fernando qualify for McKinney-Vento benefits?

- A. Yes, he is a homeless youth
- B. Yes, he is an unaccompanied homeless youth
- C. No, he is not homeless because his relative's home is fixed, regular, and adequate
- D. Not sure



Check for Understanding #3

There are a lot of immigrant families that are living doubled-up in the district. They do not consider themselves homeless and they do not want to be identified. What should the liaison do?

- A. Honor what the family shared and register the family as permanently housed.
- B. Ask questions to determine why the family is living doubled-up with other family members.
- C. Designate the family as homeless but don't tell them.
- D. Not sure



Check for Understanding #4

There is a recently arrived teenager from Ukraine who came in to register as an unaccompanied homeless youth. He does not have any immunization records. What should the liaison do?

- A. Tell him he doesn't need immunization records since he is an unaccompanied youth.
- B. Call his prior school to obtain his immunization records.
- C. Ask him to complete his immunizations within 14 days and return to the registrar when they are completed.
- D. Register him and assist with obtaining immunizations.

Check for Understanding #5

A family recently arrived from the Dominican Republic on a resident visa. They lived in a dangerous area and moved to the USA for a better life. The sister-in-law is the family's sponsor, which means mom, her partner, and two children are doubled-up with her in a two-bedroom Section 8 housing apartment. The landlord can't know the family is living there because the sister-in-law would be violating her lease. Is the newly arrived family from the Dominican Republic eligible under McKinney-Vento?

- A. Yes, because the family doesn't know how long they can stay with their sister-in-law due to the rental agreement.
- B. No, because they are living with a sponsor.
- C. Not sure

Check for Understanding #6

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) placed a 16-year-old undocumented immigrant with his grandfather in NYC, who became his sponsor. Due to conflicts with his grandfather, the youth left and moved in with an uncle in Mamaroneck. The school district is refusing to enroll the student because the uncle does not have guardianship. Can the student be enrolled under McKinney-Vento protections?

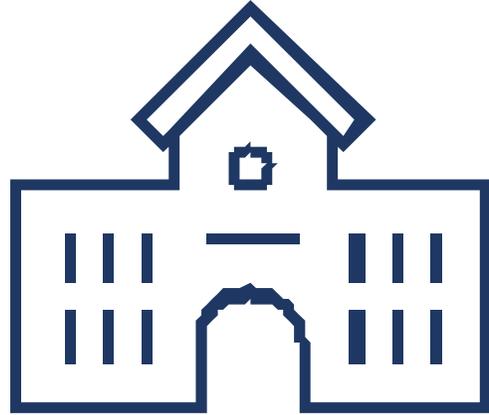
- A. Yes, he can be enrolled as an unaccompanied homeless youth
- B. No, his uncle's housing is fixed, regular, and adequate
- C. No, his uncle needs guardianship papers to enroll the student under McKinney-Vento
- D. Not sure

LEA's Role to Remove Barriers For...



Enrolling

Enroll in school immediately even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.



Attending

Continue attending the school of origin and receive transportation to and from school.



Succeeding

Equal access to the same free, appropriate public education and related services needed to meet State academic standards.



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education

Provides federal funding to help ensure that English learners attain English language proficiency and meet state standards. Liaisons should contact their school district's Title III coordinator to

- **Share information** about the McKinney-Vento Act, including eligibility and the rights of eligible students;
- Ask for **assistance with identifying immigrant students** who may be experiencing homelessness;
- Ask for assistance in **providing interpretation** when speaking with students and families who may qualify for McKinney-Vento services and have limited English proficiency;
- Find out what **school and community services** are available to immigrants/refugees.

[NCHE Brief: Supporting the Education of Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)

Role of McKinney-Vento Liaisons

MEETING THE NEEDS OF RECENTLY ARRIVED CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- Identify, enroll, and support immigrant children and youth in public schools.
- Collaborate with NYS Refugee Coordinators or local refugee agencies to identify incoming evacuees or recently arrived immigrants.
- Refer children, youth, and families to additional community services.
- Support students with the transition to higher education.



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Exit Ticket

As you leave this webinar, your **exit ticket** is to leave a key point to remember to meet the needs of recently arrived children and youth?

Please
respond in
the chat. 😊



Resources

- [NYSED Memo \(Sept. 2014\): Educational Services for Recently Arrived Unaccompanied Children](#)
- [NYSED Memo \(May 2021\): Provision of Educational Services for Recently Arrived Unaccompanied Children and Youth](#)
- [NYSED Memo \(April 2022\): Educational Services for Recently Arrived Evacuees, Refugees, Immigrants and/ or Unaccompanied Children](#)
- [NYSED Memo: New York State Education Department Guidance Regarding Out of State/Country Children who become Homeless and Tuition Reimbursement](#)



Resources

- [NCHE Brief: Supporting the Education of Immigrant Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [NCHE Resources for Immigrants and Refugees](#)
- [USDE Fact Sheet: Educational Services for Immigrant Children and Children Recently Arrived to the United States](#)
- [A Guide to Understanding the New Rules for School Registration](#)



Technical and Educational Assistance Center

- Help Line (800-388-2014)
- Website (<https://nysteachs.org>)
- Web-Based Trainings
- Outreach Materials
 - For outreach materials, email Ailin Mendoza: amendoza@measinc.com



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students

Next Webinar:

Navigating the Dispute Resolution Process

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:30am – 11:00am



NYSTEACHS.org

The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED