

Supporting Students in Temporary Housing:



Back to School With the McKinney-Vento Act



Presented By: NYS-TEACHS
Thursday, August 31, 2023
10:00am -11:30am



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 only allow you to communicate with the panelists and the host.



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

Housekeeping



- Poll questions will be launched periodically throughout the session.
- 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, the recorded session, attachments, and Q&As will be posted/accessible.

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 Region
- * Finger Lakes
- * Central Region
- * Southern Tier
- * Mohawk Valley
- * Capital Region
- * 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 rights of students experiencing temporary housing and the LEA's responsibility to ensure those rights.
- Describe the criteria for a student to be eligible for benefits as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Provide the benefits of immediate enrollment and transportation to eligible students.

Today's Agenda



Welcome! Who is in the Room?



Meet the NYS-TEACHS Team



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Benefits for Students in Temporary Housing

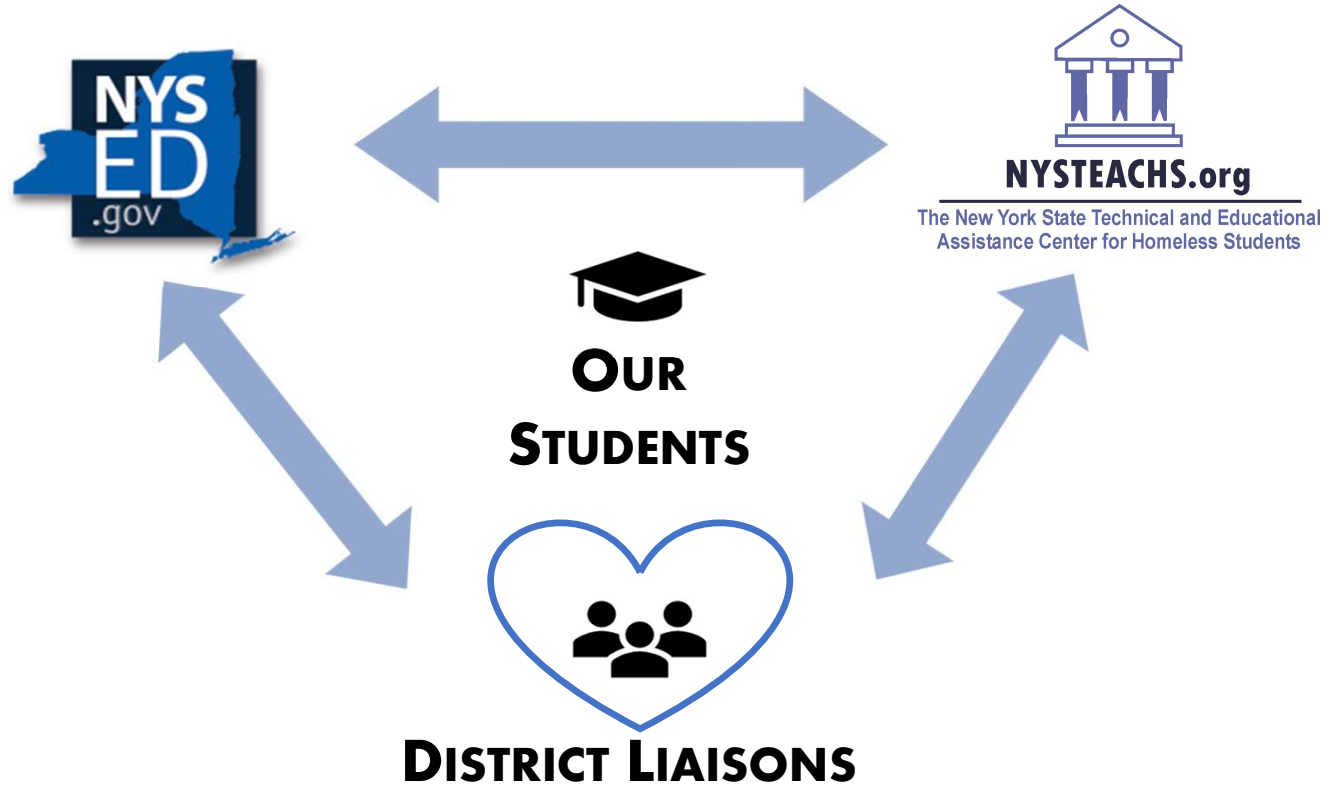


Immediate Enrollment and
Transportation



Summary, Survey and Resources

The Power of Collaboration



NYS-TEACHS Team



Rita Danis
Director, NYS-TEACHS



Wendy Cleary
Professional Learning
Specialist



Lynn Streifert
Professional Learning
Specialist



Ailin Mendoza
Research Assistant



Lisa DiGaudio
Communications
Outreach Consultant

Youth Experiences Living in Temporary Housing

As you watch the video, think about how these youth are like the students in your communities.

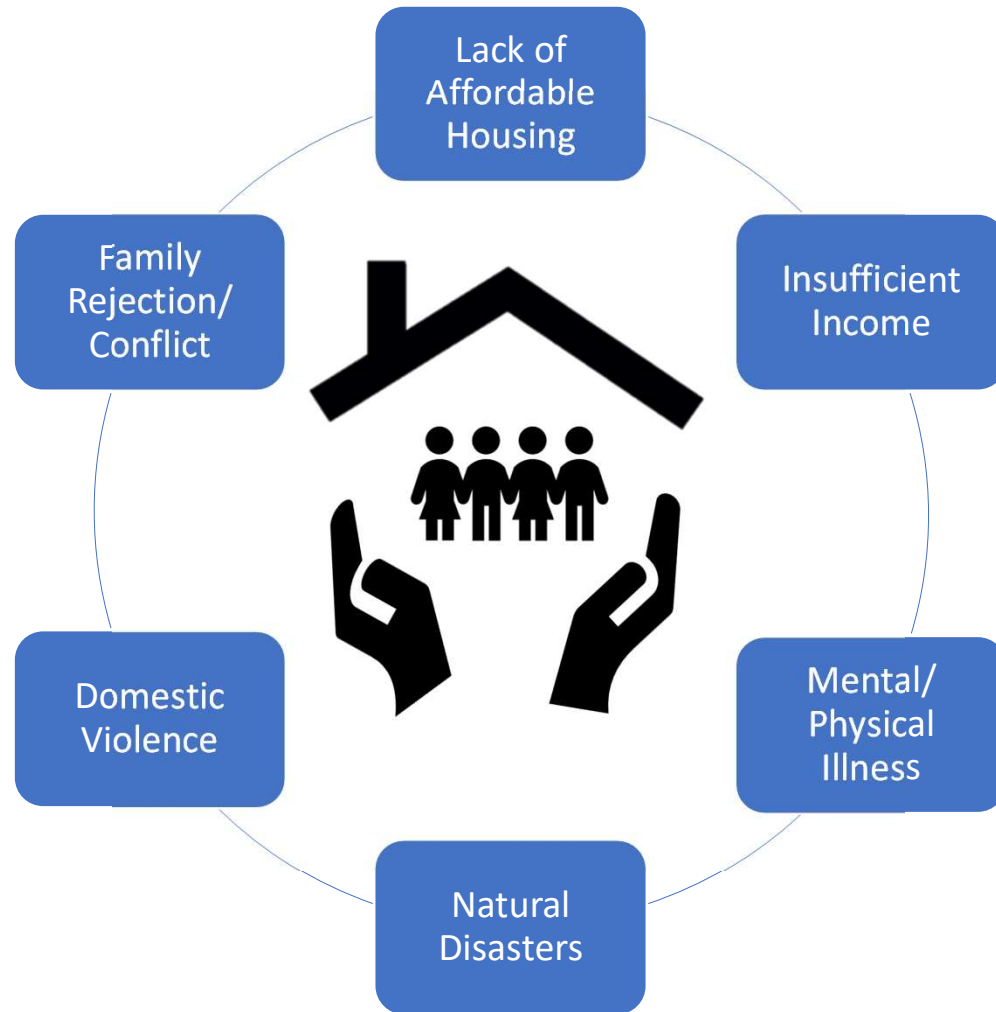
Please respond in the chat. 😊



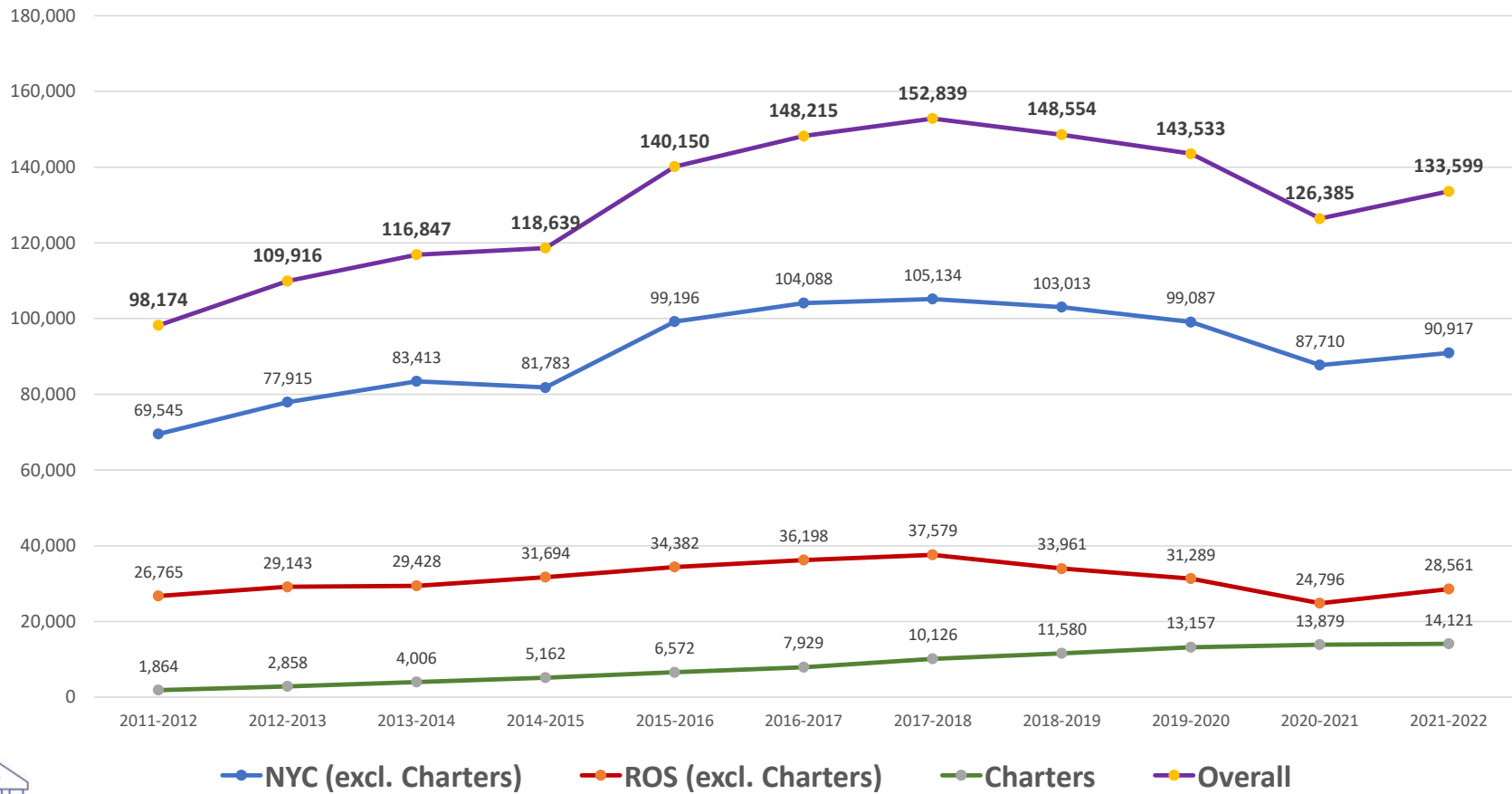
SchoolHouse Connection Scholars August 2023

Causes of Homelessness

What are the potential causes of homelessness?



Students Experiencing Homelessness in NY (2011-2022)



Source: NYS Student Information Repository System (SIRS) - 11 -

Educational Barriers



Lack of **basic** resources like a safe and stable place to live, food, and clothing



Difficulty accessing school, immunization records, other documentation necessary for school enrollment, and school supplies



Challenges finding transportation to enroll with the school registration office or to attend school daily

What Guides the Determination of Benefits



McKinney-Vento
Homeless Assistance
Act



New York State
Education Law
Section 3209



NYS Commissioner's
Regulations Section
100.2(x)

McKinney-Vento Act



NYSTEACHS.org

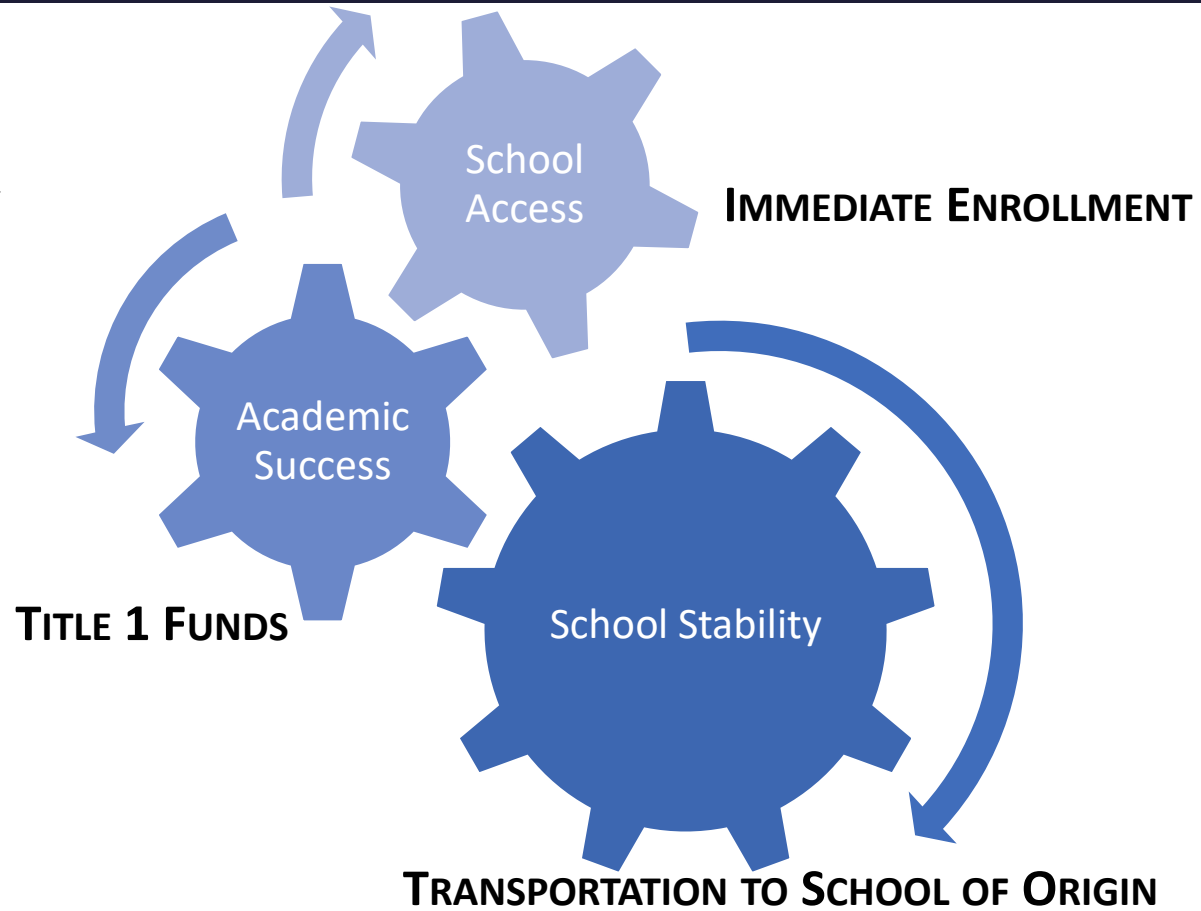
The New York State Technical and Educational
Assistance Center for Homeless Students



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

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 Requires...

The McKinney-Vento Act requires school districts to designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local homeless educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths.

The local liaison assists families and district staff with the identification and enrollment of students experiencing temporary housing.

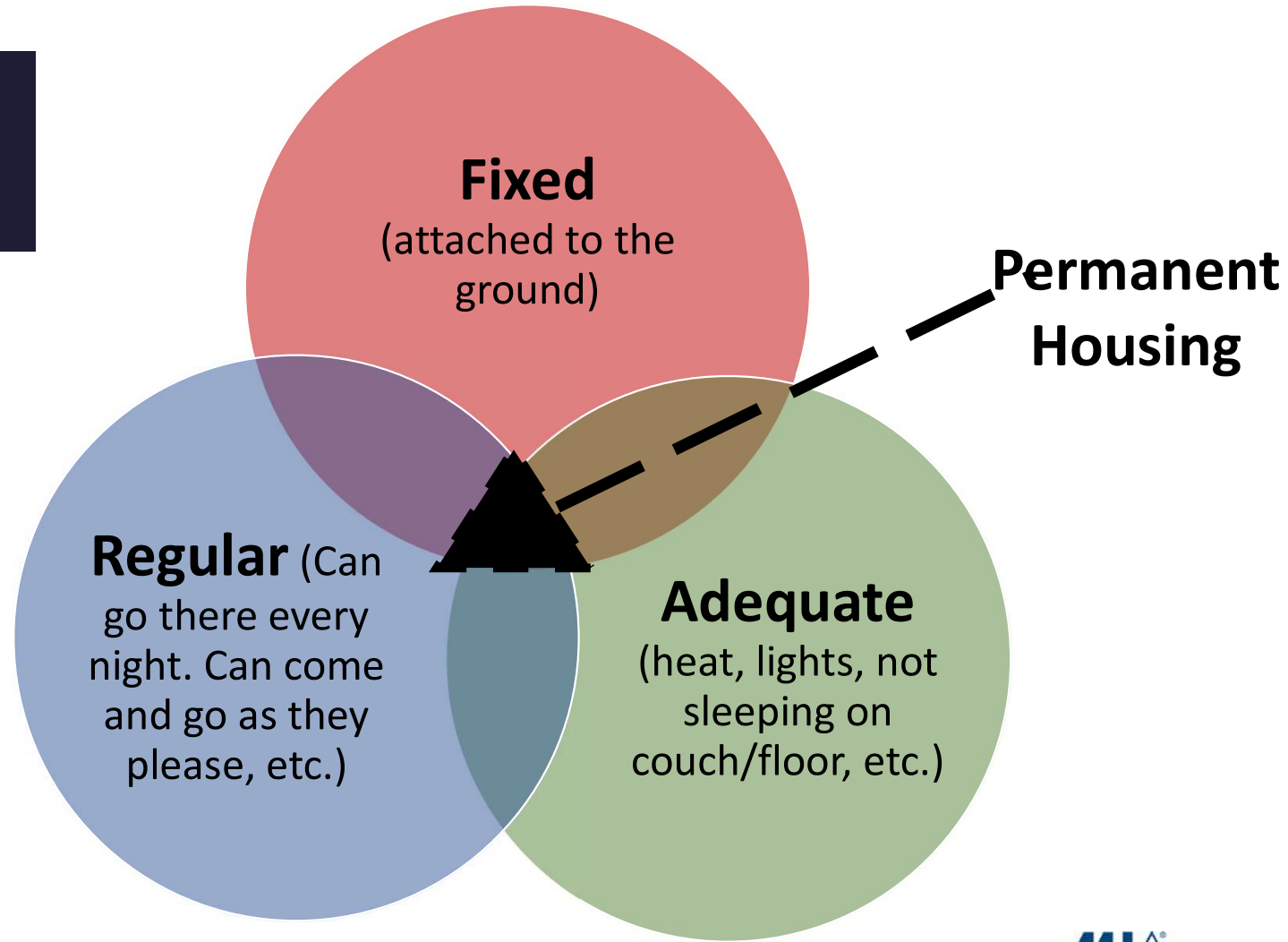


42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)

McKinney-Vento Act Definition of Homeless

Definition of Homeless

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



Homelessness: Living Conditions

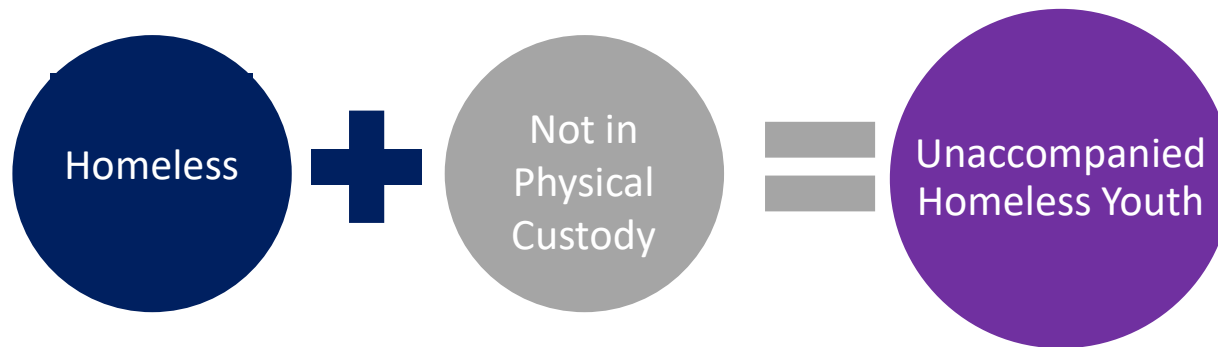
- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public 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 U.S.C. §11434A(2)(B)(i); U.S. DOE's Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question A-2,

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.

To be eligible for services under the McKinney-Vento Act, the youth must also meet the definition of homeless.

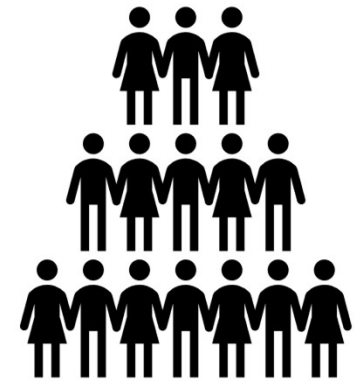


42 U.S.C. § 11434a[6]; Education Law § 3209[1][a][1][v]; and 8 NYCRR § 100.2[x][1][iii][6])

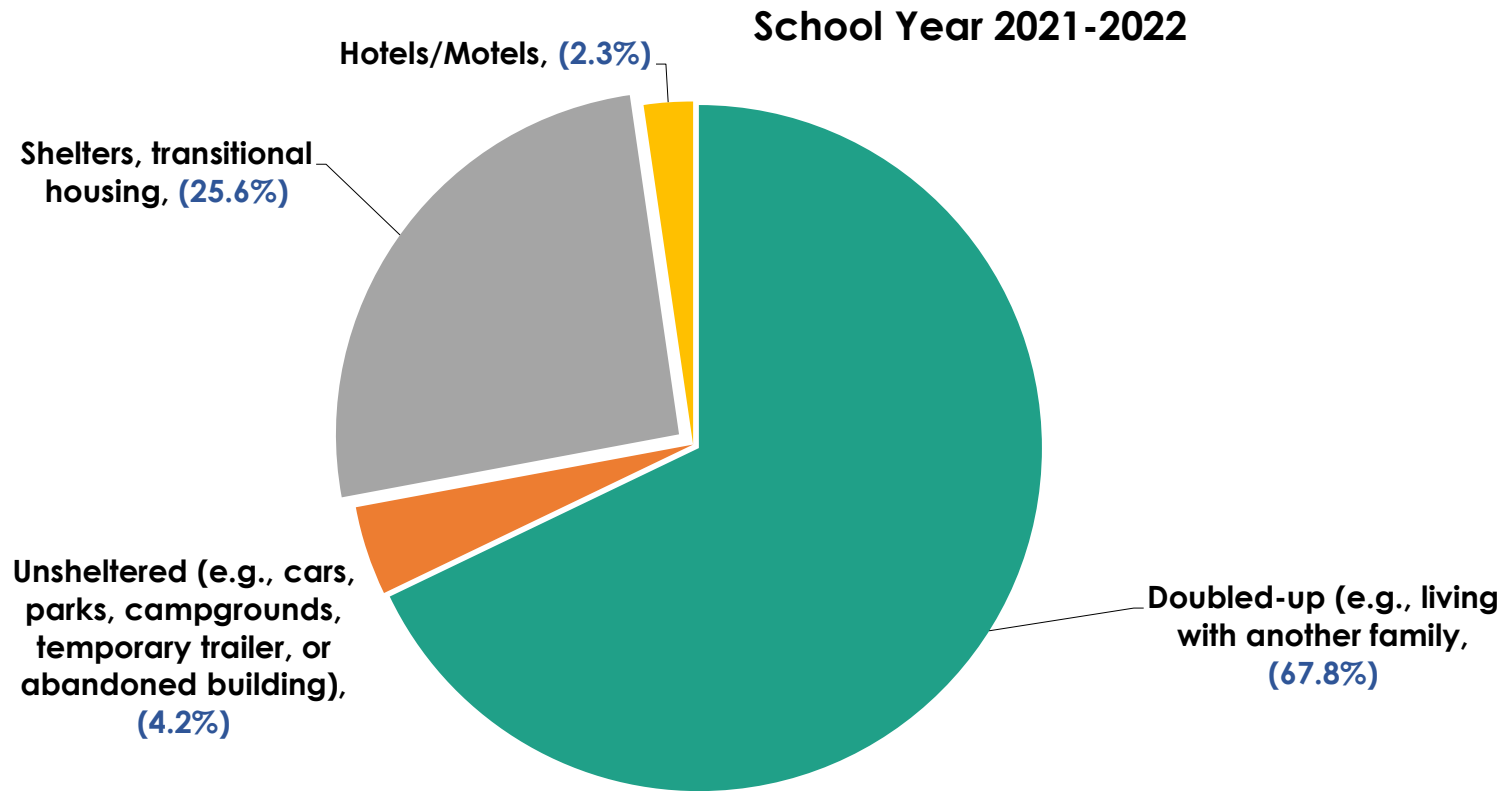
Quick Poll

According to data from 2021-2022, what primary nighttime residence was most utilized by children and youth experiencing homelessness in New York?

- A. Shelters, transitional housing
- B. Doubled up (living with another family)
- C. Unsheltered (e.g., cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, abandoned building)
- D. Hotels/Motels



Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act



Homelessness = 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 length of time if housing is not fixed, regular and adequate.

Determining Eligibility Scenarios



NYSTEACHS.org

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



MEASUREMENT
INCORPORATED

Scenario #1

A family with two children lives in a two-bedroom apartment. There is a fire in the apartment, so they move into a motel room in the next town over. This family's housing is...

- A. Fixed, regular and adequate
- B. Fixed, regular, but not adequate
- C. Fixed, but not regular or adequate
- D. Not sure



Scenario #2

There is a family with two children living in a two-bedroom apartment. Their children are getting bigger, so they move into a three-bedroom house in the next town over. This family's housing is...

- A. Fixed, regular and adequate
- B. Fixed, regular, but not adequate
- C. Fixed, but not regular or adequate
- D. Not sure

Scenario #3



Mom is living with two children in a one-bedroom apartment. The landlord evicts the family and they have nowhere to go so they are staying in mom's car. This family's housing is...

- A. Fixed, regular and adequate
- B. Fixed, regular, but not adequate
- C. Fixed, but not regular or adequate
- D. Not fixed, regular or adequate.

LEA Responsibilities

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, LEAs Must...

- **Review and revise policies** that act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, and retention of homeless children and youth, including barriers caused by absences. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(I).
- **Remove barriers** to enrollment in school, which includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(I)
- Ensure that homeless children and youth are **identified** by school personnel and receive the educational services for which they are eligible. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A)

Under the McKinney-Vento Act LEAs Must...

- **Provide transportation** to students in temporary housing to help students stay in school. 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii) & NYS Education Law Section 3209(4)
- **Enroll** students in temporary housing immediately, even if the student is unable to provide documents typically required for enrollment, such as school records, medical records including immunization records, proof of residency, guardianship papers, birth certificate, or other documents normally needed. Also enroll students in temporary housing even if they fail to meet application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
- **Designate an appropriate staff person**, who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a **local homeless education liaison**.
42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)

Housing Questionnaire

- Screening tool is required for all students.
- Required at time of enrollment and change of address.

NOTE TO SCHOOLS/LEAS: Please assist students and families filling out this form. The form should be included at the top page of registration materials that the district shares with families. Do not simply include this form in the registration packet, because if the student qualifies as residing in temporary housing, the student is not required to submit proof of residency and other required documents that may be part of the registration packet.

HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of LEA: _____

Name of School: _____

Name of Student: _____
Last First Middle

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Grade: ____ ID#: _____
Month Day Year (preschool-12) (optional)

Address: _____ Phone: _____

The answer you give below will help the district determine what services you or your child may be able to receive under the McKinney-Vento Act. Students who are protected under the McKinney-Vento Act are entitled to immediate enrollment in school even if they don't have the documents normally needed, such as proof of residency, school records, immunization records, or birth certificate. Students who are protected under the McKinney-Vento Act may also be entitled to free transportation and other services.

Where is the student currently living? (Please check one box.)

- In a shelter
- With another family or other person because of loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship (sometimes referred to as "doubled-up")
- In a hotel/motel
- In a car, park, bus, train, or campsite
- Other temporary living situation (Please describe): _____

Who Fills Out The Housing Questionnaire

A Housing Questionnaire should be filled out:

1. **FOR** all students enrolling in school and/or who have a change of address from preschool - grade 12 .
2. **BY** the student's parent, person in parental relation, or – in the case of an unaccompanied youth – by the student directly.



Immediate Enrollment

- The selected school must immediately enroll, even if the child/youth:
 - Does not have records normally needed for enrollment.
 - Has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
- The enrolling school should contact the last school attended for the student's records.
- Liaison must assist child/youth in obtaining any necessary immunizations or other required health records.



Education Law § 3209(2)(f); 8 NYCRR § 100.2(x)(4)(ii); see also 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(C); Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions I-5 & I-6.

Remove Barriers to Enrollment

Missing records, immunizations, proof of residency, guardianship papers, or a birth certificate

Fees, fines, and all absences

Missed application or enrollment deadlines

All types of programs and activities

Credit accrual for full or partially completed coursework at prior school

1: 42 U.S.C. § 11432[g][3][C][i]; U.S. Department of Education's Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program, Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions I-5; 2: 42 U.S.C. § 11432[g][1][I], Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions A-4, I-5, I-6; 3: 42 U.S.C. § 11432[g][1][F][iii], Non-Regulatory Guidance, Questions I-6, 15; 4: 42 U.S.C. § 11432[g][1][F][ii], Non-Regulatory Guidance, Section O

Remove Barriers to Enrollment: Providing Transportation

Local liaisons must ensure that the parent or guardian of a homeless child, or any unaccompanied youth:



- is **fully informed of all transportation services**, including transportation to and from the school of origin, and
- is **assisted in accessing transportation to the school selected** in accordance with the best interest determination.

➔ Transportation should be arranged **within three days** if possible.

Transportation for Students in Temporary Housing



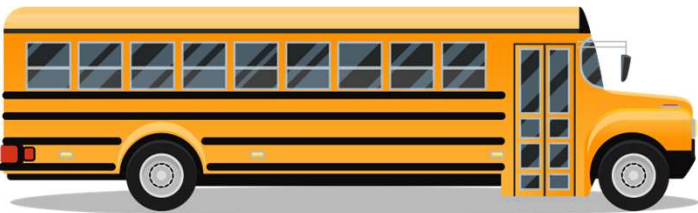
Students experiencing homelessness, including preschoolers, are entitled to transportation to their school of origin.



Students who move into permanent housing are entitled to transportation throughout the remainder of the school year and an additional year if it is the child's terminal grade in the school.



Students who enroll locally are entitled to comparable transportation as their permanently housed peers receive, and elimination of barriers to enroll in and attend school.



42 U.S.C § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii), 11432(g)(3)(A)(i)(II); Education Law § 3209(1), 3209(2)(c), 3209(2)(d), 3209(4)(i); 8 NYCRR § 100.2(x)(2), 100.2(x)(6)(iv); Non-Regulatory Guidance, Question J-5.

Check for Understanding



Check for Understanding #1

The McKinney-Vento Act states that children and youth who lack “a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence” will be considered homeless. Which of the following would be an eligible living situation? **Select all that apply.**



- A. Living in an apartment lacking adequate heat and/or electricity
- B. Living doubled up with a friend due to an eviction
- C. Living doubled up with your grandmother so she can take care of your three-year-old
- D. Living in hotels, motels, temporary mobile homes, or camping grounds

Check for Understanding #2

A student who is not living in the district of origin may only receive transportation for one year.

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Not sure



Check for Understanding #3

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

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Not sure



Check for Understanding #4

Can McKinney-Vento eligible students be enrolled without the proper documentation?

- A. Yes, if there is a parent present.
- B. Yes, if they have proof of residency.
- C. Yes, M-V eligible students can enroll without documentation.
- D. No, they need a birth certificate.



Check for Understanding #5

If a student is eligible for McKinney-Vento benefits, the student can be enrolled immediately but must wait to attend classes until the school receives needed documents.



- A. True
- B. False
- C. Not sure

Check for Understanding #6

Families living in temporary housing can enroll/attend whichever school they wish under McKinney-Vento Law?

- A. True
- B. False
- C. Not sure



Check for Understanding #7

An unaccompanied youth comes in to register in your district. She does not have any guardianship papers. Does she need guardianship papers to enroll?



- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. No, if the youth explains why he/she is unaccompanied
- D. Not sure

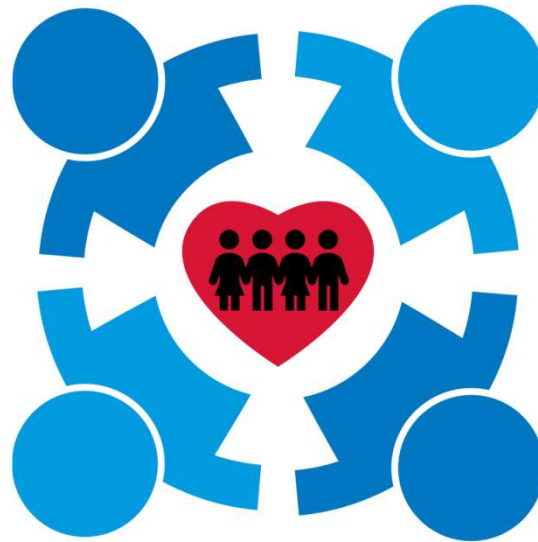
Check for Understanding #8

Which of the following issues must be addressed before a homeless student can be enrolled in school?

- A. No proof of residency
- B. Enrollment deadline has passed
- C. Outstanding Fees or fines
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above



Summary



School District's Role is to Remove Barriers For...



Enrolling

Enroll in school immediately even if lacking the 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.

Role of the McKinney-Vento Liaison



IDENTIFICATION

- Meets the definition of lacking a fixed, adequate and regular nighttime residence.
- Eligible for McKinney-Vento benefits for an unspecified length of time as long as housing is not fixed, adequate and regular.



ENROLLMENT

- Enrollment in school of origin or the school deemed to be in the best interest of the student.
- Help parents, guardians, and unaccompanied homeless youth obtain required health records, needed immunizations, or health screenings.



SUPPORT

- Access to resources: health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
- Ensure transportation to and from school of origin.
- Remove Barriers from: identification, enrollment, attendance and success in school.

Key Ideas

What are some key ideas to remember about the **McKinney-Vento Act** as the school year begins?



Resources

More
Information



[McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act](#)

[Flowchart for Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility](#)

[Housing Questionnaire \(English\)](#)

[Housing Questionnaire \(Spanish\)](#)

[Identifying Children and Youth in Homeless Situations](#)

[Enrolling Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness in School](#)

[Enrollment Checklist](#)

Technical and Educational Assistance Center

- **Help Line** (800-388-2014)
- **Website** (<https://nysteachs.org>)
- **Web-Based Trainings**
- **Outreach Materials**



NYSTEACHS.org

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

<https://www.nysteachs.org/order-brochures/brochures-posters>

Next Webinar:
McKinney-Vento Liaison Role and Responsibilities
Tuesday, September 12, 2023
9:30am – 11:00am

MCKINNEY-VENTO

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CHOOSE FROM TWO LOCATIONS:

OCT. 25, 2023

9AM - 12:30PM

Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs
232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs

APR. 17, 2024

9AM - 12:30PM

Mariott Syracuse Downtown
100 East Onondaga St, Syracuse



NYSTEACHS.org

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

ENSURING EQUITY: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS FOR STUDENTS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Eddie Fergus