

## **The McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act**

The McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act is a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth. McKinney-Vento provides federal funding to states for the purpose of supporting district programs that serve homeless students.

### **Defining Homeless**

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The act provides examples of children who would fall under this definition:

- Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Children and youth living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Children and youth abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc)
- Children and youth living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations
- Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations

The U.S. Department of Education has issued its Non-Regulatory Guidance for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth.

[Non-Regulatory Guidance](#) | [Fact Sheet](#)

### **Homelessness Data**

Due to smaller student populations, we cannot post school specific data counts. Please visit NCHPEP <https://hepnc.uncc.edu/about/> to learn more about homelessness across North Carolina.

The McKinney-Vento Program also meets the needs of "a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian" (42 USC § 11434a(6), 2001). Youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian and lacking a fixed, regular and adequate residence are referred to as unaccompanied homeless youth. Youth who run away are also eligible for services even if the parent/guardian/caregiver wishes the student to return home. Some reasons a youth may be on his/her own include, but is not limited to,

street 1307 Glenwood Ave  
city Raleigh  
state North Carolina  
zip 27605

web [www.raleighcharterhs.org](http://www.raleighcharterhs.org)  
email [Office@raleighcharterhs.org](mailto:Office@raleighcharterhs.org)  
tel 919.715.1155  
fax 919.839.1766

family dysfunction, parental neglect and abuse (emotional, physical, sexual, or substance), incarceration, illness and deportation. Runaway youth and unaccompanied homeless youth are eligible to be enrolled immediately without a legal guardian. Under the McKinney-Vento Program, there is no age limit for an unaccompanied homeless or runaway youth as long as the student is eligible for K-12 public education in NC. Schools must immediately alert the School McKinney-Vento Liaison or the District McKinney-Vento Liaison if presented with a possible runaway or unaccompanied homeless youth.

The provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act supersede any state law or local policy that may conflict with this act.

### **Informational Links**

- [National Center for Homeless Education](#)
- [National Center for Homeless Education SERVE Center at UNCG](#)
- [North Carolina Homeless Education Program \(NCHEP\)](#)
  - [NCHEP Homelessness Statistics](#)
- [National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth](#)
- [National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty](#)
- [National Coalition for the Homeless](#)
- [Homeless Student Guidance \(Updated March 2017\)](#)

### **Contact Information**

Raleigh Charter High School, McKinney-Vento Liaison: Akilah Govan

Liaison's Email Address: [agovan@raleighcharterhs.org](mailto:agovan@raleighcharterhs.org)

Liaison's Phone Number: 919.715.1155

Additional McKinney-Vento information and homeless data:

NC Homeless Education Program – Lisa Phillips, State Coordinator: [lphillip@serve.org](mailto:lphillip@serve.org)

Website: <http://center.serve.org/hepnc/>

Helpline: 800.308.2145



# Information for Parents Información para los Padres

## IF YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter, motel, or campground

In a park, abandoned building, bus or train station, or some other inadequate accommodation

Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

**Then, your school-aged children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.**

**If your children are eligible, they have the right to:**

- Receive the free, appropriate public education to which they are entitled.
- Be enrolled in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Be enrolled in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documentation.
- Enroll in the local school near where they're living; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference and is feasible. If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your child, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and offer you the opportunity to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to all other students, according to your child's need.

***If you believe your children may be eligible, contact the local liaison (see below) to find out what services and supports may be available.***

District Local Liaison:

*El oficial para la educación de los niños y jóvenes sin hogar:*

Akilah Govan, Raleigh Charter High School  
919.715.1155  
agovan@raleighcharterhs.org

State Coordinator:

*El coordinador estatal:*

Lisa Phillips, State Coordinator for Homeless Education  
lphillip@serve.org  
Website: <http://center.serve.org/hepnc/> Helpline: 800.308.2145

## SI SU FAMILIA VIVE EN CUALQUIERA DE LAS SIGUIENTES SITUACIONES:

En un albergue, un motel, o un sitio para acampar

En un parque, un edificio abandonado, una estación de trenes o de autobuses, u otra situación inadecuada

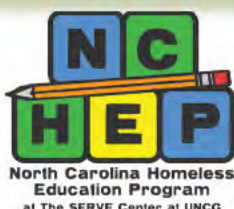
Comparatiendo la vivienda de otras personas debido a la pérdida de su casa o a una dificultad económica

**Entonces, sus niños de edad escolar podrían calificar para recibir ciertos derechos y protecciones bajo la ley federal McKinney-Vento.**

**Si sus hijos son elegibles, tienen derecho a:**

- Recibir una educación pública gratuita y apropiada.
- Inscribirse en la escuela inmediatamente, aunque falten documentos normalmente requeridos para la inscripción.
- Inscribirse, asistir a la escuela, y participar completamente en todas las actividades escolares mientras que la escuela obtiene los documentos necesarios.
- Asistir a la escuela local o a la escuela de origen, según la preferencia de usted y lo que sea mejor para su hijo; la escuela de origen es la escuela a la cual su hijo asistió cuando tenía una residencia permanente, o es la última escuela en la cual estaba inscrito. Si el distrito escolar cree que la escuela escogida por usted no es la mejor para su hijo, el distrito tiene que darle a usted una explicación escrita de su posición y ofrecerle la oportunidad de apelar su decisión.
- Recibir transporte a/de la escuela de origen, si usted lo pide.
- Recibir servicios educacionales comparables a los que están provistos para otros estudiantes, según la necesidad de su hijo.

***Si cree que sus hijos pueden ser elegibles, hable con el oficial para la educación de los niños y jóvenes sin hogar del distrito escolar (información de contacto a continuación) para averiguar los servicios y ayudas que podrían estar disponibles.***



**If you need further assistance, call the North Carolina Homeless Education Program toll-free:**

***Si necesita ayuda adicional, llame gratis al Programa de Educación de Los Niños y Jóvenes sin Hogar en Carolina del Norte:***

**1-800-659-3204**



# Information for School-Aged Youth

## Información para los Jóvenes de Edad Escolar

### IF YOU LIVE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter, motel, or campground

In a park, abandoned building, bus or train station, or some other inadequate accommodation

Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

**Then, you may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.**

#### Eligible students have the right to:

- Receive the free, appropriate public education to which they are entitled.
- Be enrolled in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Be enrolled in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documentation.
- Enroll in the local school near where they're living; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is their preference and is feasible. If the school district believes that the school selected by the student is not in his/her best interest, then the district must provide the student with a written explanation of its position and offer him/her the opportunity to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to all other students, according to the student's needs.

***If you believe you may be eligible, contact the local liaison (see below) to find out what services and supports may be available.***

#### District Local Liaison:

*El oficial para la educación de los niños y jóvenes sin hogar:*

Akilah Govan, Raleigh Charter High School  
919.715.1155  
agovan@raleighcharterhs.org

#### State Coordinator:

*El coordinador estatal:*

Lisa Phillips, State Coordinator for Homeless Education  
lphillip@serve.org  
Website: <http://center.serve.org/hepnc/> Helpline: 800.308.2145

### SI VIVES EN CUALQUIERA DE LAS SIGUIENTES SITUACIONES:

En un albergue, un motel, o un sitio para acampar

En un parque, un edificio abandonado, una estación de trenes o de autobuses, u otra situación inadecuada

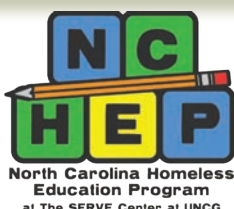
Comparatiendo la vivienda de otras personas debido a la pérdida de tu casa o a una dificultad económica

**Entonces, podrías calificar para recibir ciertos derechos y protecciones bajo la ley federal McKinney-Vento.**

#### Estudiantes elegibles tienen derecho a:

- Recibir una educación pública gratuita y apropiada.
- Inscribirse en la escuela inmediatamente, aunque falten documentos normalmente requeridos para la inscripción.
- Inscribirse, asistir a la escuela, y participar completamente en todas las actividades escolares mientras que la escuela obtiene los documentos necesarios.
- Asistir a la escuela local o a la escuela de origen, según la preferencia del estudiante y lo que sea mejor para él/ella; la escuela de origen es la escuela a la cual el estudiante asistió cuando tenía una residencia permanente, o es la última escuela en la cual estaba inscrito. Si el distrito escolar cree que la escuela que el estudiante escoge no es la mejor para él/ella, el distrito tiene que darle al estudiante una explicación escrita de su posición y ofrecerle la oportunidad de apelar su decisión.
- Recibir transporte a/de la escuela de origen, si se solicita.
- Recibir servicios educacionales comparables a los que están provistos para otros estudiantes, según la necesidad del estudiante.

***Si crees que puedes ser elegible, habla con el oficial para la educación de los niños y jóvenes sin hogar del distrito escolar (información de contacto a continuación) para averiguar los servicios y ayudas que podrían estar disponibles.***



**If you need further assistance, call the North Carolina Homeless Education Program toll-free:**

***Si necesitas ayuda adicional, llama gratis al Programa de Educación de Los Niños y Jóvenes sin Hogar en Carolina del Norte:***

**1-800-659-3204**