

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHO CAN HELP STUDENTS LIVING IN TEMPORARY HOUSING?

Every school district must appoint a McKinney-Vento liaison to help children and youth in temporary housing participate in school.

### CAN A STUDENT ENROLL THEMSELF IN SCHOOL?

Yes. Youth living in temporary housing and not with their parents or legal guardians (known as unaccompanied youth) can enroll themselves in school.

### CAN A STUDENT WHO IS LIVING IN TEMPORARY HOUSING STAY IN THE SAME SCHOOL IF THEY MOVE OUT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?

Yes, the student has the right to attend the school they attended when they were permanently housed so long as it is determined to be 'feasible' and in the child's best interest.

### IF A STUDENT MOVES INTO PERMANENT HOUSING, CAN THEY STAY IN THE SAME SCHOOL?

Yes. Students who move into permanent housing can stay in the same school until the end of the school year.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### HOPE STARTS HERE

Statewide information and Resources for families and youth in transitional situations.

[www.home4hope.com](http://www.home4hope.com)

### NH Dept. of Education

[www.ed.state.nh.us](http://www.ed.state.nh.us)

### NH Dept. of Health and Human Services

[www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dhhs/homelesshousing](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dhhs/homelesshousing)

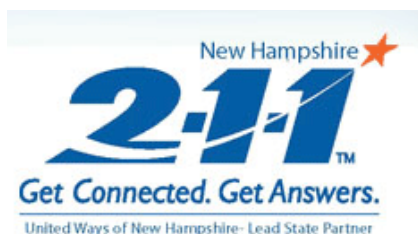
603-271-5043

### National Center for Homeless Education at SERVE

[www.serve.org/nche](http://www.serve.org/nche)

### National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

[www.nlchp.org](http://www.nlchp.org)



For a comprehensive list of services available in NH utilize 2-1-1; an easy to remember phone number that connects callers, at no cost, to information about services in their community.

### Local Liaison

(insert contact information)

### State Coordinator

Dr. Lynda Thistle Elliott  
Director Homeless Education  
Department of Education  
101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301  
603.271.3840  
[Lynda.ThistleElliott@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Lynda.ThistleElliott@doe.nh.gov)



A McKinney-Vento Act Funded Publication

# IS YOUR HOUSING UNCERTAIN?

# DO YOU LIVE AT A TEMPORARY ADDRESS?

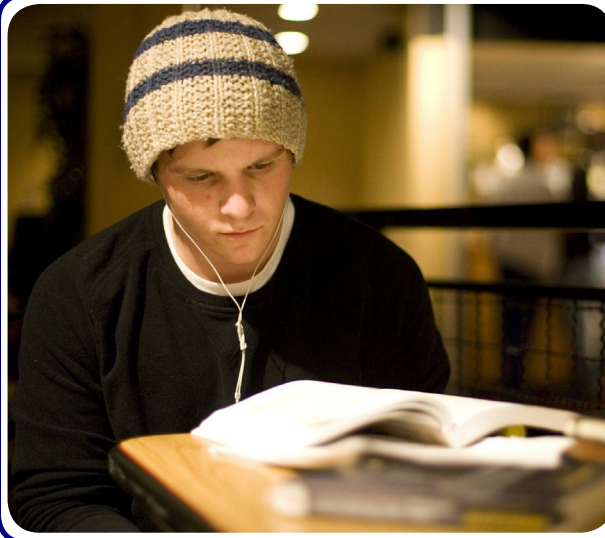
You can still enroll in school and may get free transportation under the McKinney-Vento Act.

## THE MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT COVERS CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO DON'T HAVE A FIXED, ADEQUATE AND REGULAR NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE, SUCH AS THOSE LIVING:

- with friends or relatives due to loss of housing or economic hardship (aka doubled up or couch surfing);
- in a motel, hotel, or campground;
- in emergency or transitional shelters;
- in temporary situations while awaiting foster care placement or abandoned in hospitals;
- in a public or private place not designed or ordinarily used for, regular sleeping accommodations;
- in a car, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or other similar settings;
- in temporary housing and not with their legal parents or guardians (Unaccompanied Youth).

## THEY CAN CHOOSE FROM:

- the school they attended when permanently housed (school of origin);
- the last school they attended (also school of origin); or
- the school located in the attendance area where they are temporarily living (local school).



## STUDENTS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- **Go to school**, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there
- **Choose to attend either** the local school or the school of origin, if feasible and in their best interest
- **Get free transportation** to and from the school of origin, if it is requested
- **Enroll in and attend school immediately**, without proper documentation, (ex. Birth certificate, proof of residence, previous school records, or immunization/medical records) or even without a parent or proof of legal guardian
- **Have access to the same programs and services** that are available to all other students, including transportation, extracurricular activities and supplemental educational services.
- **Get free school meals** without an application



## THE MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON MAY ASSIST YOU IN RECEIVING THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Enrollment assistance, including help in obtaining needed school records, health records, special education records, and immunization records
- Transportation to/from school of origin if eligible
- Continued attendance at school of origin
- Free school breakfast/lunch
- Waiver of school fees
- Uniforms, if required, and school supplies
- Waiver of fees for extracurricular activities
- Pre-school information
- Additional educational programs, such as tutoring, special education, gifted and talented and programs for English Language Learners
- Referral to community resources, social service agencies, and other services that can assist families with basic needs
- Assistance with the appeal process if you feel your rights have been denied

## MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISONS BY DISTRICT CAN BE FOUND AT:

[www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title\\_x.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title_x.htm)  
AND  
[www.home4hope.com](http://www.home4hope.com) (Education)

## DID YOU KNOW...?

If you share housing with relatives, friends or others because you lost your housing or have nowhere else to go, you may be covered under the McKinney-Vento Act. Students covered under the Act have the right to stay in the same school and get transportation to school, or immediately enroll in the local school. Speak to the liaison in your school district for more information.