



**LEARNING FROM LIAISONS:
LESSONS FROM SUPPORTING TEXAS STUDENTS**



OBJECTIVES

- Attendees will increase understanding of the McKinney-Vento Act in school settings
- Attendees will develop strategies to increase collaboration with their local McKinney-vento Liaison

QUICK CONNECT ACTIVITY

FIND YOUR SOULMATE



INTRUCTIONS



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MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT



History

Originally authorized in 1987
Reauthorized four times

ESSA amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act went into effect on October 1, 2016



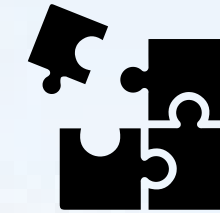
Definition

The term “homeless children and youth”—means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and include: doubled-up, hotel, shelter, and unsheltered



Right and Services

- Immediate enrollment
- Eligibility for school of origine
- Transportation services
- Equal access to educational services
- Remove barriers
- Rights for UHY
- Appoint a local liaison



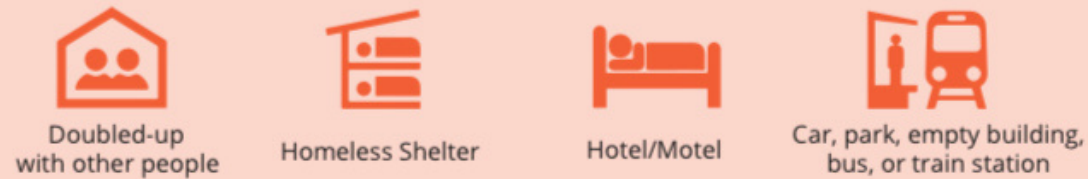
Collaboration

- Meet the needs of students experiencing homeless
- Referrals to appropriate agencies
- Develop a team approach

TEXAS DATA

TEXAS EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM

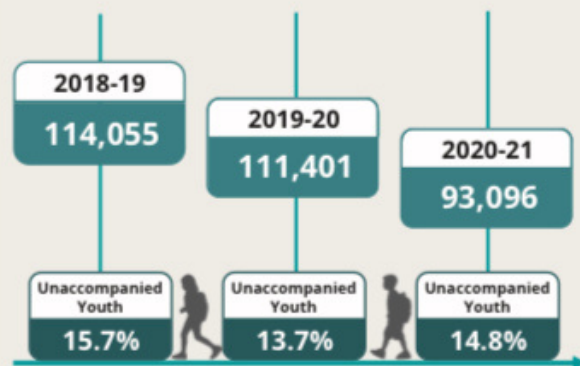
Students experiencing homelessness live in any of these situations:



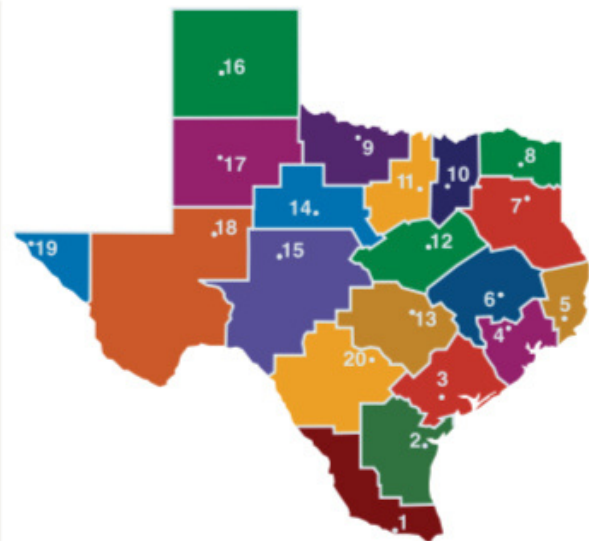
McKinney-Vento eligible students have the right to:

- ✓ Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- ✓ Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- ✓ Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- ✓ Enroll in the local school or continue attending their school of origin.
- ✓ Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- ✓ Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the student's needs.

Students Experiencing Homelessness in Texas Public Schools



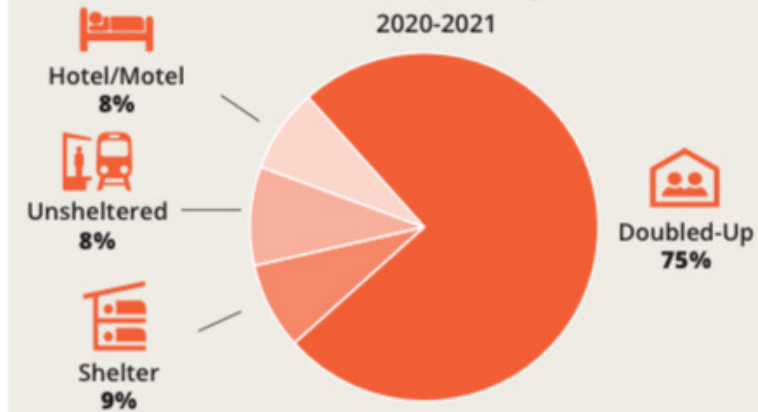
TEA attributes the 2020-2021 decrease in identification to the COVID-19 pandemic.



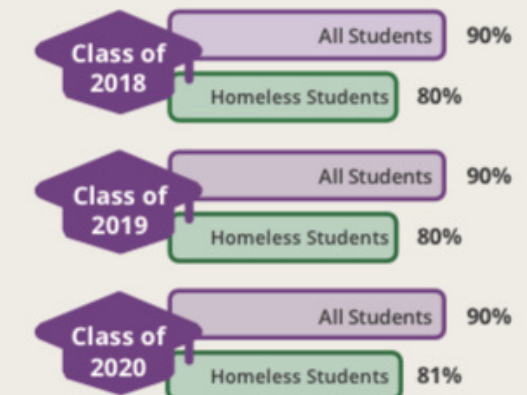
Each of the 20 Regional Education Service Centers has a designated [Regional McKinney-Vento Liaison](#) who provides technical assistance and training to LEAs.

TEXAS EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM

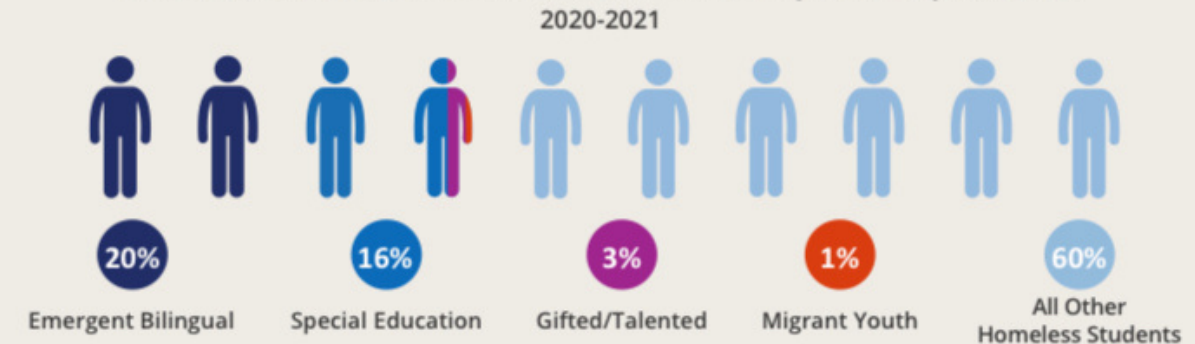
Identified Students Experiencing Homelessness by Living Situation 2020-2021



Graduation Rate by Year



Students Identified as Homeless and Other Special Populations 2020-2021



UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

The McKinney-Vento Act defines an “unaccompanied youth” as a youth that is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

“Guardian” is a legal designation representing the person who has legal custody of a student; this designation can only be granted to someone other than a birth parent by a judge in a court of law.

These documents do NOT convey legal guardianship:

- Power of Attorney
- Educational Affidavit
- Notarized document/letter pertaining to a student’s care



Age Limits

- Students of all ages may be unaccompanied.
- The Texas Education Agency defines a youth to be a person who is under age 21 on September 1 of the applicable school year.
- For students eligible for special education services, under age 22 on September 1 of the applicable school year, not a high school graduate.

UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS HOOUTH



Discipline: HB 687-LEA may not place a student who is homeless in out-of-school suspension unless the student engages in conduct described by Subsections (c)(1)-(3) while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off of school property <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm>

FAFSA Considerations-Section 480(d)(8) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), provides that an applicant for Title IV federal student aid is an independent student—that is, an applicant who does not need to provide parental information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form—if the applicant is an unaccompanied homeless youth or unaccompanied and self-supporting youth at risk of homelessness.

Mental health services -A child may consent to his or her own counseling for: suicide prevention; chemical addiction or dependency; or sexual, physical, or emotional abuse. Tex. Family Code § 32.004(a).

Age of Consent- In Texas, the legal age of consent is 17. Anyone who is still 16 years old or younger cannot legally consent to a sexual act. If the defendant and his or her underage sexual partner are legally married, it is a defense to a criminal charge.

Drivers license / ID-A homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, may obtain a Texas identification card (ID):

- At no cost if funding is available in the Identification Fee Exemption Account
- Without meeting the standard Texas residency requirements to obtain an ID
- Without the signature, presence of, or permission from a parent or guardian of the child or youth

GROUP ACTIVITY

Review scenario and determine if the child or youth:

- 1. Qualifies for McKinney-Vento services**
- 2. Qualifies as an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth**
- 3. Share out!**



MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON

Local liaison in every school district are required to carry out the duties of the position as listed in the law [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A)].



MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISON



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Region 13 McKinney-Vento Liaisons



Every Local Education Agency (LEA) must designate an appropriate staff person as a

View Region 13's McKinney-Vento Liaisons

Locate and contact your McKinney-Vento Liaison.

[View Liaisons](#)

[Share](#)

Need to get in touch?

Contact a member of our team for more information or to update your District's McKinney-Vento Liaison contact information.

[? Help](#)

Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth



Learn how to support students experiencing homelessness

View trainings, resources, and find liaisons with TEHCY.

[View TEA TEHCY Program Information](#)

[Share](#)

Need to get in touch?

Contact a member of our team for more information.

[? Help](#)

COLLABORATING WITH YOUR LOCAL MV LIAISON

01 Increase identification

02 Maximize resources

03 Improve outcomes



COLLABORATING WITH YOUR LOCAL MV LIAISON TO SUPPORT SCHOOL EVENTS



COLLABORATING WITH YOUR LOCAL MV LIAISON FOR COMMUNITY WIDE EVENTS



COLLABORATING WITH YOUR LOCAL MV LIAISON



If you or someone you know is experiencing a homeless crisis, please call the Homeless Crisis Hotline at 1-888-411-6802

We are here to help!


CALL US AT
512-772-7293
or
512-772-7151


EMAIL US AT
NSANCHEZ@BISDTX.ORG

Visit our webpage at Bastrop ISD Family Resource Center and Health Clinic or scan the QR code below



Si tú o alguien que conoces está pasando por una crisis por falta de hogar, llama al 1-888-411-6802 (Homeless Crisis Hotline)

¡Está bien pedir ayuda!


Llamenos al
512-772-7293
or
512-772-7151


Envíanos un email a
NSANCHEZ@BISDTX.ORG

Visite nuestra página web en Bastrop ISD Family Resource Center and Health Clinic o escanee el código QR a continuación



LESSONS LEARNED

Early identification is key for student success.



Intersectionality with other student populations: Migrant, foster care, refugee, human trafficking, and teen pregnancy.

Common misconceptions about the McKinney-Vento Act and role of the liaison



BEST PRACTICES

Communication



To increase awareness of the needs of children and youths experiencing homelessness so that programs and agencies can expand and/or customize their services.

Advocacy



To align policies and practices to remove barriers to services across programs and agencies.

Remove barriers



To expand resources for homeless children, youths, and their families.



OUR TEAM



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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)

NCHE Determining Eligibility for McKinney-Vento Rights and Services brief | Download at
<http://center.serve.org/nche/briefs.php>

NCHE Determining Eligibility for McKinney-Vento Rights and Services webinar | Register at
<http://center.serve.org/nche/web/group.php>

NCHE Understanding Doubled-Up coffee break webinar | Register at <http://center.serve.org/nche/web/group.php>

NCHE Homeless Liaison Toolkit, Appendix 12.B Common Signs of Homelessness | Download at
http://center.serve.org/nche/pr/liaison_toolkit.php

School House Connection
<https://schoolhouseconnection.org>

Texas Homeless Education Office (THEO)
http://www.theotx.org/resource_type/awareness/