

Frankton-Lapel Community Schools

Transportation for Homeless Students: McKinney-Vento

School of Origin Transportation

To counteract the educational disruption caused by mobility, the McKinney-Vento Act provides students experiencing homelessness with the right to continue attending the school of origin or enroll in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend, according to the student's best interest [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(A)]. The term "school of origin" means the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed, or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(l) (i)]. When a homeless child or youth completes the final grade level served by the school of origin, the term "school of origin" includes the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(l)(ii)].

If a McKinney-Vento eligible child or youth continues to live in an area served by the local educational agency (LEA) in which the school of origin is located, the child's or youth's transportation to and from the school of origin must be provided or arranged by the LEA in which the school of origin is located [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(I)]. If the homeless child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by the LEA of origin terminate and the child or youth, though continuing his or her education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another LEA, the LEA of origin and the LEA in which the homeless child or youth is living must agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the LEAs are unable to agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs for transportation must be shared equally [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(II)].

Summary of Key McKinney-Vento Transportation Provisions

Local liaisons must ensure that the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and 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 [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A)(viii)].

Local educational agencies (LEAs) must provide homeless students with transportation to and from the school of origin at the request of a parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the local liaison) [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1) (J)(iii)].

If the child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by the LEA of origin terminate and the child or youth, though continuing the child's or youth's education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another LEA, the LEA of origin and the LEA in which the homeless child or youth is living shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child or youth with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the LEAs are unable to agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii) (II)].

In addition to providing transportation to the school of origin, LEAs must provide students in homeless situations with transportation services comparable to those provided to other students in the school [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(4)(A)].