

November 2017

## New McKinney-Vento Training Module!

We are excited to have developed a new training module for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The module walks school staff through determining eligibility, immediate enrollment, school of origin, and unaccompanied homeless youth. The module includes scenarios to test your knowledge. This is a great tool to use to train school staff as well. The module can be found on the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) EHCY [website](#).

## Video Resource for Homeless Liaisons

A [new video](#) for training is available on the DPI EHCY website! We hope you take advantage of this resource and use it to increase awareness and professional development around McKinney-Vento in your district.

## McKinney-Vento 101 Webinar

On October 19, 2017, DPI EHCY staff hosted a McKinney-Vento 101 Webinar for homeless liaisons and local education agencies (LEAs) statewide. The PowerPoint and recording of the webinar can be found on the DPI EHCY [website](#).

## Assessing the Capacity of Homeless Liaisons

Out of all of the amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act made by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the new requirement for homeless liaisons to “be able to carry out” ten specific duties in the law has the potential to have the greatest impact on children and youth who are experiencing homelessness. SchoolHouse Connection has put together a great resource for homeless liaisons to evaluate and plan for liaison capacity. We encourage you to look through this [Self-Assessment Tool](#) to help prioritize areas for improvement in carrying out the law.

## New Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Updates

SchoolHouse Connection also recently released new updates to the FAFSA, including the following key points:

1. There is no longer a definition of “youth” on the FAFSA.
2. School district homeless liaisons have new specific FAFSA responsibilities.
3. School counselors have new specific responsibilities related to higher education and homelessness.
4. School district liaisons, Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) program directors or designees, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) homeless assistance program directors or designees are now permitted to continue to make FAFSA determinations in subsequent years, under certain conditions.

SchoolHouse Connection has created an updated FAFSA tool to help! Please visit the [SchoolHouse Connection FAFSA update page](#) to learn more about these key points and supporting students experiencing homelessness.

## New! Frequently Asked Questions Document

The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) has just released their updated [FAQ document](#) based on amendments made by ESSA. The answers are general responses based on federal statutes, regulations, and guidance; relevant case law; and best practices from across the country. It cannot be emphasized enough that these are general responses, and that answers could change based on the facts of a particular case. This document is meant to provide basic information and tools to assist administrators and advocates in understanding the McKinney-Vento Act.

## Contacts

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*As part of our ongoing commitment to providing consistent and timely information regarding Education for Homeless Children and Youth, the Title I and School Support Team (TISS) will be providing you with regular eBriefs. We welcome suggestions about topics you would like addressed in future editions.*

## Important Information

### Staff Updates

Kristine Nadolski will be out on maternity leave beginning October 20, 2017. State co-coordinator Karen Rice continues to be available to answer any questions you might have. Contact Karen at [karen.rice@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:karen.rice@dpi.wi.gov).

### District McKinney-Vento Compliance Check

Your district may be monitored for McKinney-Vento compliance this year. We encourage you to visit the DPI EHCY [website](#) to view the monitoring guidance and review the monitoring assessment to ensure your district is in compliance with recent changes to the law.

### New Identification Form Available for Use

The DPI EHCY website has posted a new [Homeless Student Identification Form for Local Use](#) that can be used for your own internal record keeping. This aligns with the updates under ESSA.

### Homeless Liaison Toolkit

The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) has published a new version of the [Homeless Liaison Toolkit](#) that includes the updates to McKinney-Vento under ESSA.

## Resources

[DPI EHCY website](#)

[NCHE](#)

[NAEHCY](#)

NEW- [SchoolHouse Connection](#)

[McKinney-Vento Act](#)

NEW- [McKinney-Vento Non-Regulatory Guidance](#)