



McKinney-Vento Act Local Educational Agency (LEA) Assessment

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is required by the United States Department of Education (USDE), as authorized by the *Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IX, Part A – Homeless Children and Youths, Sec. 722 (f)(5)*, to monitor all LEAs to ensure compliance with federal education regulations for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Please see the [EHCY Compliance Monitoring](#) webpage for guidance on the current compliance review process.

The purpose of this assessment is to allow an LEA to evaluate the current state of its homeless education program. Along with a more comprehensive needs assessment, the LEA can more effectively coordinate efforts to address barriers to the academic success of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Consider answering the following questions in conjunction with the LEA Assessment:

- What does your LEA do well?
- What opportunities do you see to create awareness of the educational rights and the challenges of students experiencing homelessness?
- What barriers do you see that your LEA could eliminate?
- What collaborative partnerships could be expanded or reinforced?

1. Public and Staff Awareness	Yes	No
Has your district designated an appropriate staff person who is able to carry out the duties as the district homeless liaison for homeless children and youth?		
Does your district's homeless liaison inform school personnel about the educational rights of homeless children, youth, and unaccompanied youth regularly (at least annually)?		
Does every school employee know who your district's homeless liaison is and how to contact the homeless liaison?		
Does your district's homeless liaison provide role-specific training for staff members who may interact with homeless students (i.e., bus drivers, cafeteria workers, secretaries and registrars, social workers, counselors, nurses, truancy officials, administrators, and teachers)? More information on role-specific training is available in Appendix A of NCHES' "Identifying Children and Youth in Homeless Situations" at https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/briefs/identification.pdf		
Does your district's homeless liaison reach out to local service providers to inform them of the rights of homeless children, youth, and unaccompanied youth?		
Are homeless educational rights posters displayed in each school building? Posters and other materials can be obtained for free from the National Center for Homeless Education at https://nche.ed.gov/products.php		
Does your district post an annual notice in school/district newsletters?		
Is a public notice of educational rights of homeless children and youth available and readily found on the school district's website?		
Has your district disseminated public notice of the educational rights of students who are homeless in places where families and youth are likely to be present throughout the community?		
Has your district disseminated public notice of the educational rights of students who are homeless to community agencies that provide service to homeless populations (e.g., social service providers, shelters, soup kitchens, food banks, transitional living programs, housing agencies, medical clinics, laundromats, libraries, and faith-based organizations)?		
2. Community Coordination and Collaboration	Yes	No
Does your district's homeless liaison reach out to local service providers (calls, letters, e-mails, etc.) to inform the community of the educational rights of homeless children and youth and the challenges associated with homelessness?		

Has your district established a procedure for community agencies to refer homeless families, children, and youth to the homeless liaison?		
Has your district established interagency partnerships to provide a coordinated approach to the identification and referral of homeless children, youth, and families?		
Does your district homeless liaison attend meetings with local service providers?		
Does your district host networking events for local service providers?		
3. Identification and Referral	Yes	No
Has your district established a protocol for staff to refer homeless children and youth to the homeless liaison?		
Are all staff trained regularly on the district's protocol for referring students to the homeless liaison?		
Are all staff trained regularly to know what indications of homelessness to look and listen for when interacting with parents, children, and youth and how to discuss sensitive issues discreetly and respectfully?		
Are homeless families/youth given their McKinney-Vento educational rights in an understandable, written format?		
Does your district utilize a student/family residence questionnaire that requests information on the living arrangements for all children and youth (including preschool-age children) in order to screen for homelessness?		
Does your district ensure homeless children have access to and receive educational services for which such families, children, and youths are eligible including Head Start, early intervention services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other preschool programs administered by the district?		
Are homeless students allowed free participation in school nutrition programs (i.e., breakfast and lunch) when offered by the district?		
Are homeless families/youth given a list of, and assistance connecting with, local service providers that can help with basic needs, housing, health, mental health, and other appropriate services?		
Are homeless students given free school supplies and course fee waivers if parents/guardians/youth can't afford to pay for these items?		
4. Policy and Procedure Review/Revision	Yes	No
Since October 1, 2016 - the implementation date of the amended McKinney-Vento Act - has your district reviewed/revised existing policies and procedures to ensure they do not create barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth? Related policies concerning transportation, residency, academic and health records, guardianship, privacy, and others should be included in policy and procedural reviews.		
Does your district regularly review policies and procedures to ensure that the district has eliminated barriers to the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth?		
Does your district have a "Homeless Students" policy to ensure the rights and protections afforded to homeless children and youth are documented at the district level?		
Has your district developed policies and procedures affirming that homeless children and youth will not be stigmatized or segregated (with the exception of providing tutorial and before- and after-school programs)?		
Do your district's policies and procedures contain appropriate cross-references to the McKinney-Vento Act and related policies?		
5. Transportation to and from School of Origin (Including a Preschool)	Yes	No
Are homeless families and youth provided with information regarding McKinney-Vento rights to transportation to and from the school of origin (including a preschool) in a comprehensible format (e.g., in native language, geared for low literacy, or other needs)?		
Does your district use a school selection form for parents, guardians, and unaccompanied homeless youth to request transportation to and from the school of origin (including a preschool)?		
Does your district use a transportation agreement form when parents or guardians of homeless children and youth provide transportation to and from the school of origin (including a preschool)?		

Does your district have agreements with neighboring districts to equally share the cost of transportation for students who are transported to and from the school of origin (including a preschool) across district boundaries?		
6. Immediate Enrollment	Yes	No
Does your district enroll homeless children, youth, and unaccompanied youth even without the records ordinarily required for enrollment?		
Does your district have a process for timely transfer of records for homeless students?		
Does your district utilize information release forms to record the transfer of relevant academic and health records of homeless students?		
7. Dispute Resolution	Yes	No
Does your district have specific written procedures for parents and guardians of homeless children and youth to appeal school placement, enrollment, and eligibility decisions made by the school, district, or decisions in which DPI is involved?		
Does your district inform parents/guardians of homeless children and youth and unaccompanied youth of school placement, enrollment, and eligibility decisions in a written manner and form that is understandable to the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth?		
Has your district reviewed policies and procedures to ensure disputes are resolved expeditiously?		