

Screening Families for Transitional Status (Homelessness)

All families that are new to WBSD and families that report a change in address should be screened for homeless status.

If the family indicates they have recently moved, ask:

“Is this address a permanent address?”

and/or

“Is this your own home or are you sharing it with others?”

If they are sharing a home with others, ask...

“Is this temporary? Are you looking for other housing?”

If they want to know why you are asking or they answer that they are in a temporary home or are living “doubled up” with others you can say:

“There is a program that helps families in transition. Based on what you have shared, I will have our school counselor give you a call.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, homelessness is defined as lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. This includes families and unaccompanied youth who because of economic or other hardship, are living doubled up, staying in shelters or transitional housing or are living in a motel, hotel, car or location not meant for sleeping.

Many families that are eligible for services under McKinney-Vento, do not know of the program and will not identify themselves as homeless. It is our responsibility to ask the right questions and offer services.

Students are eligible to enroll in school immediately if they are homeless, even if lacking documents normally required.