



# STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!



### DEFINITION

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act is a federal law that protects the educational rights of students experiencing homelessness. It defines "homeless children and youths" as any student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.



### IDENTIFICATION

Families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. (i.e. shelter, motel, campground, car, park, doubled-up with other people etc.) may qualify for certain rights and protections under the McKinney-Vento Act. To self-identify, please complete the LAUSD Student Housing Questionnaire (SHQ) and turn it to the student's school.



### SCHOOL OF ORIGIN

A student can remain at the same school when permanently housed, where last enrolled, or where enrolled within the last 15 months where the student has a connection. They also have the right to remain in the school and District as long as they are experiencing homelessness, the right extends until end of the school year and for high school, it extends until high school graduation.



### TRANSPORTATION

Transportation assistance to and from school may be provided if requested and mileage requirements are met. Be sure to ask an SSS counselor about options for using an LAUSD school bus route, or TAP cards for public transportation.



### ENROLLMENT

Students have a right to immediate enrollment in school even if they are unable to produce records normally required for enrollment such as transcripts, other education records, medical records including immunizations, or proof of residency. The youth also have a right to attend school even if they do not have uniforms or other supplies required by the school.



### CREDITS/GRADES

Partial credits must be accepted by a school based on "weeks of enrollment", regardless of whether or not a student completed the semester at their previous school. A student may maintain grades and credits earned from a previous school placement, even if they transferred mid-semester.



### GRADUATION

Graduation exemptions are available if a student meet specific criteria; if they were identified as experiencing homelessness during a school change after second year of high school and are not on track to graduate with District graduation requirements.



### DISPUTE RESOLUTION/UCP

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment of a student experiencing homelessness, the student must be immediately enrolled, pending the resolution of the dispute and the Homeless Education Office must be contacted. The District's Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) may be used to report noncompliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and/or to appeal District decisions regarding such complaints. UCP brochures and complaint forms are available at all school sites and on the District's website at <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/3655>

ASSEMBLY BILL: 1806, 167, 216; EDUCATION CODE: 48852.7, 48645.5, 49069.5, 51225.1, 51225.2, 51225.3; EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://achieve.lausd.net/studentsupportprograms>

Student and Family Wellness Hotline

213-241-3840, Option 5 (M-F, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

