



Who is Homeless?

The **McKinney-Vento (M-V) Act** defines homelessness as *lacking a “fixed, regular, and adequate” nighttime residence*. Students who have lost their housing due to economic hardship or disaster are covered under the M-V Act.

Students may be eligible for services if they are:

- Living in a transitional shelter or housing program
- Living unsheltered (in a park, car, tent, campground, etc.)
- Living in a motel
- Living doubled-up with friends or others
- Unaccompanied homeless youth
- Migratory children living in these conditions

Rights Under M-V Act

Students in Pre-School Through 12th Grade Have Educational Rights Under The M-V Act.

Students Have the Right To:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if they lack documents normally required for enrollment (i.e. permanent address, records, immunizations)
- Enroll in the resident district school or continue in their school of origin. If either school district feels the school you select is not in the best interest of the student, they will provide a written explanation and inform you of your right to appeal the decision
- Receive transportation to their school of origin, if requested
- Receive free lunch if the school participates in the School Nutrition Program
- Participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state or local programs for which they are eligible
- Access the same programs and services that are available to all other students

What About My Child in Preschool?

Pre-K students attending state or federally-funded programs (GSRP, Head Start, ESCE) are also eligible for McKinney-Vento Act services:

- Immediate enrollment, even if lacking key documents (if space is available)
- Right to continue in school of origin (if in the best interest of the child)
- Receive transportation to continue in school of origin (if in the best interest of the child)

What if I Am Not Enrolled in School?

If you have stopped attending school or have dropped out, your school district's Homeless Liaison can help connect you to services including re-enrollment in school.

What if I Am Alone?

Youth who are separated from their parents are eligible for help from their district's Homeless Liaison. The Liaison can help you with:

- Enrollment
- Scheduling transportation to school of origin
- School supplies
- Referrals for community services

What Your Family Should Do Before You Move

- Tell your school secretary, teacher, school success staff member, or principal that you are moving, and give them the new address
- Let school officials know if you want to stay in your home school while you are settling into your new residence
- Ask for a copy of your school records, including immunizations

Tips For Families Who Move Often

- Always have ready a copy of your birth certificate and school records accessible.
- Safeguard all health and immunization records.
- Have a reliable person keep a second copy of your birth certificate, school records, and health information.
- Enroll in school as soon as possible.

Know Your Rights

You have the right to dispute enrollment decisions on school selection and placement.

Dispute Resolution Procedure forms are available upon request.

For more information visit:



www.maresa.org

- Click Quick Links (top right)
- Click McKinney-Vento
Information Includes:
- M-V Homeless Education Support (left side)
- Helpful Websites/Resources (left side)
- Homeless Student Data Information (right side)

U.P. Coordinator

**Rayme Martineau, 906-226-5139
rmartineau@maresa.org**

National Center for Homeless Education:

Website: www.nche.ed.gov

Email: homeless@serve.org

Toll Free: 1-800-308-2145

Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services

MDHHS within your county:

www.michigan.gov/mdhhs

Emergency and other community assistance information available

24/7 - Just Dial: 211

Have a question?

If you believe you may be eligible,
contact the local liaison below
to find out what services and supports
may be available.

Local Homeless Liaison:

Contact Info - Label Here

Upper Peninsula



McKinney-Vento

Do You Know Your Educational Rights?

Homeless Education Assistance

U.P. Coordinator

**Rayme Martineau, 906-226-5139
rmartineau@maresa.org**

State Coordinator

**Pam Kies-Lowe, 517-373-6066
kies-lowep@michigan.gov**