

The PEAK School Homeless Policy

Homeless children and youth are defined by the McKinney-Vento Act, as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”

Homeless children and youth will receive equal, free and appropriate education as other children. Each child, including preschool aged children, will have access to educational and other services they need to enable them to meet academic achievement standards to which all students are held. Children will not be separated from the mainstream school environment for the bases of being considered homeless. Homeless children and youth will be immediately enrolled into school, with or without required documentation (including immunization). The PEAK School, Inc. will use their best efforts to assist the family in attaining required records at a later date, if necessary (and/or assisting child in getting required immunizations).

In accordance with Title X, Part C, Section 722(g)(I)(J)(ii), Local Educational Agencies will designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be the coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the duties described in paragraph (6)(A).

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NCLB Homeless Liaison: Ron Drossman

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Title X, Part C, Section 722(g)(1)(A) states the following: Local Education Agency Liaison for homeless children and youth designated under paragraph (1)(J)(ii) shall insure that:

“(i) homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies;

“(ii) homeless children and youths enroll in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in school of that local educational agency;

“(iii) homeless families, children, and youths receive educational services for which such families, children and youths are eligible including Head Start and Even Start programs and preschool programs administered by the local educational agency, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services;

“(iv) the parents or guardians of homeless children and youths are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;

“(v) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated where such children and youths receive services under this Act, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens;

“(vi) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with paragraph (3)(E); and

“(vii) the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, as described in paragraph (1)(J)(iii), and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is selected under paragraph (3)(A).