

The School District of West Allis/West Milwaukee, et al. shall provide an educational environment that treats all students with dignity and respect. Every student identified by the District as in housing transition or homeless due to economic or other hardship shall have equal access to the same free and appropriate educational opportunities as students who have stable housing. This commitment to the educational rights of children, youth, and youth not living with a parent or guardian who are in housing transition or homeless, applies to all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by the School District of West Allis/West Milwaukee, et al.



Questions?

**Please call the
Facilitator for Students
in Transition**

(414) 322-9579

**Office Location:
West Allis Central High School
Counseling Office
8516 West Lincoln Avenue
West Allis, WI 53227**



**Services for Students
in Housing Transition
or
Experiencing Homelessness**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



If your family is in a temporary or inadequate living situation due to a loss of housing and economic hardship, students have educational rights and can receive services to assist in their educational success.

The McKinney-Vento Act: The Basics

You may be able to receive help through a federal law called the McKinney-Vento Act if you lost your housing due to economic hardship and now live in:

- A shelter.
- Share housing with relatives or others due to lack of housing.
- A motel, hotel or campground due to lack of adequate housing
- A train or bus station, a park, or in a car.
- An abandoned building.
- Other situations that are not fixed, regular, or adequate for nighttime residence.

You also might be able to receive help through the McKinney-Vento Act if:

- A youth is not living with a parent or guardian. (unaccompanied youth)
- A child or youth is awaiting foster care placement.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, eligible students have the right to:

- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there.
- Attend either the local school or the school of origin, if this is in their best interest. The school of origin is the school the child attended when he/she was permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled.
- Receive transportation to and from the **school of origin** throughout the course of housing instability.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if he/she is missing records and documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll, attend classes, and participate fully in all school activities while records are gathered.
- Have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students, including transportation and supplemental educational services.
- Attend school with children not experiencing housing instability or homelessness; a school can not segregate a student because he/she is in housing transition or homeless.



People you can contact for assistance and more information:

- **The Facilitator for Students in Transition (FST)** at (414)322-9579. The FST can help students get school supplies, supplemental services, free school meals, transportation to and from school of origin, and help in accessing community resources.
- **Teachers.** Keep contact with teachers to let them know how things are going and provide information that will help them to assist the student to be successful.
- **Your child's school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist.** They can help students deal with changes and challenges. Share with them how things the student is dealing with that could affect his/her schoolwork.
- **The school principal, attendance secretary, bus driver, and school nurse,** can also be helpful.
- **All school and school district staff** can help make sure students get the services they need to succeed. We can work together to ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn and achieve.