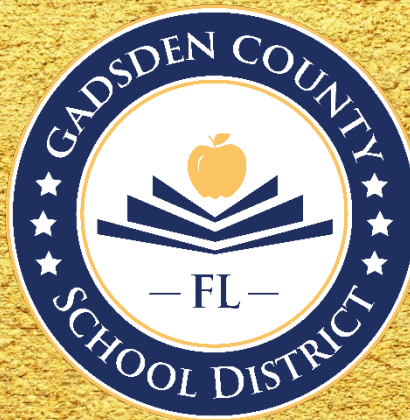


The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act

EMPLOYEE TRAINING



The Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Legislation for Gadsden County Schools.





provided students provide parents schools school
children education homeless special disabilities
needed services preventing public

An overview of the law and specific areas to be mindful of when considering students who are eligible for the McKinney-Vento or Families in Transition Program



What Is the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act?

- The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act was created to address the problems that homeless children and youth have faced while enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

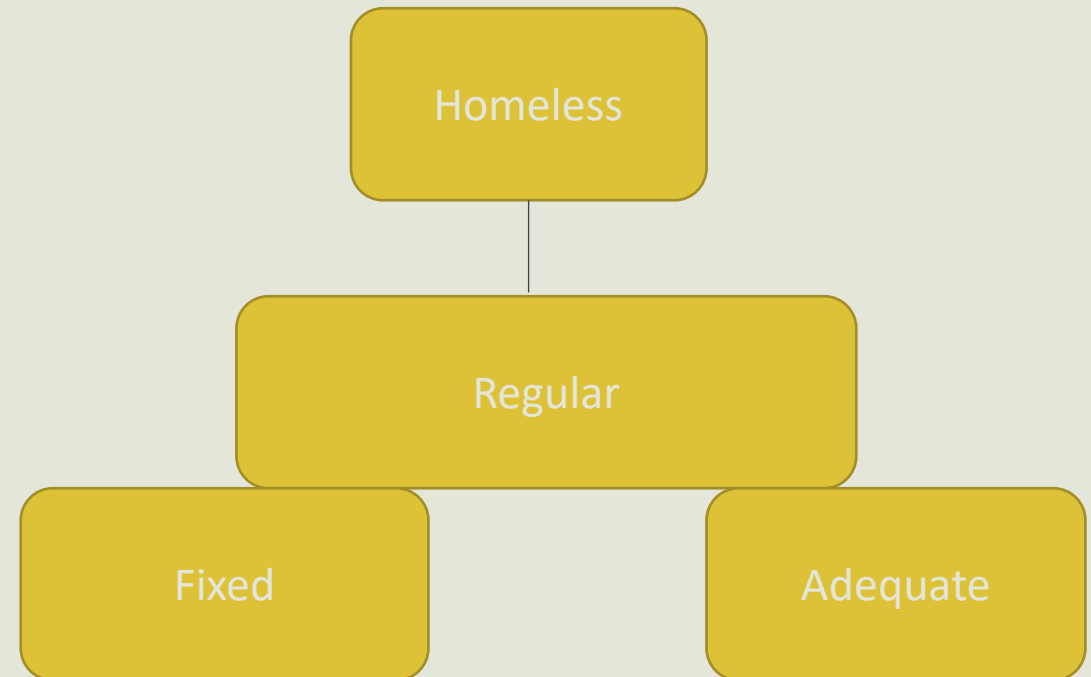
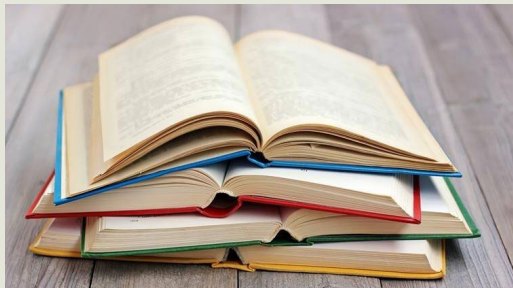


- Under this program, State Educational Agencies (SEA) must ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education.



What Is the Definition of a Homeless Student? Who is Homeless?

The McKinney-Vento Act defines “Homeless Students” as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and/or adequate nighttime residence.



FIXED



A “fixed” residence



Not a “fixed” residence



A “fixed” residence

A “fixed” residence is stationary and permanent. For example, a house or apartment is “fixed,” but a car is not.



REGULAR



A “regular” residence



Not a “regular” residence

A “regular” residence is used on a regular and nightly basis. For example, a home your family owns and can stay in for the long term is “regular,” but an emergency shelter is used on a short-term basis and is not “regular.”



ADEQUATE



An “adequate” home



Not an “adequate” home



An “adequate” home

An “adequate” residence is one that meets the physical, emotional, and psychological needs that a home typically provides. For example, an “adequate” home is one that is warm, safe, and reliable, but an abandoned building is not “adequate.”



EASY HOMELESS SITUATIONS TO IDENTIFY



NOT EASY TO IDENTIFY

- **Migratory Children**
- **Children Awaiting Foster Care**



HARD SITUATION TO IDENTIFY

- **Sharing** the Housing of **other persons** due to loss of housing, economic hardship or other reasons – “**doubled-up**”.



COMMON SIGNALS OF DISPLACEMENT

1. Lack of continuity in education
2. Poor health/nutrition
3. Transportation and attendance problems
4. Poor hygiene
5. Lack of privacy/personal space after school
6. Social and behavioral concerns
7. Reaction/statement by parents, guardian, or child



WHAT CAN WE DO?

Identify

Enroll immediately

Evaluate Their Needs

Free Lunch

Give Priority to ALL School Programs (Exceptional Student Education, Sports, Gifted, Title I Services, After School Enrichment Programs)

Network With Local Service Agencies

Watch and Support Without Judgement



OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Schools are responsible for enrolling displaced children and youth. A school selected on the basis of a “best interest determination” must immediately enroll the child, even if the child is unable to produce the records normally required for enrollment. Those records consist of:

- Previous academic records
- Medical records
- Proof of residency
- Birth certificate



FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Gadsden County Schools
Families In Transition Program (FIT)**

(850) 627-9651, Ext. 1252

<http://www.gadssdenschools.org/?DivisionID=2201&DepartmentID=2070>

**National Center for Homeless Education
(NCHE)**

<https://nche.ed.gov/>

<https://www.fldoe.org/policy/federal-edu-programs/title-x-homeless-edu-program-hep.stml>

