

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL-AGE YOUTH



IF YOU LIVE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter



In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation



In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station



Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

You may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Eligible students have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is their preference.

* If the school district believes that the school selected is not in his/her best interest, then the district must provide the student with a written explanation of its position and inform the student of his/her right to appeal its decision.

- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the students' needs.

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



Local Liaison
Mrs. Becky Lee
1-833-324-1173
lee@dibble.k12.ok.us

State Coordinator
Ms. Caitlin Merritt
405-606-4907
caitlin.merritt@occy.ok.gov

If you need further assistance with your educational needs,
contact the National Center for Homeless Education:

1-800-308-2145 * homeless@serve.org * <http://nche.ed.gov>

Dibble Public School

Homeless Liaison Responsibilities

The local liaison is the key to ensuring homeless children and youths receive the services they need. Required in all LEAs regardless of subgrant status, the liaison is the primary contact between homeless families, school and LEA staff, shelter workers, and other service providers.

In 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)(A), the McKinney-Vento Act lists the responsibilities of the local liaison. The law states that local liaisons will ensure that

- homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other agencies;
- homeless children and youths are enrolled in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, school;
- homeless families, children, and youths have access to and receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start programs, early intervention services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other preschool programs administered by the LEA;
- homeless families, children, and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services;
- 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;
- public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to parents and guardians and unaccompanied youth;
- enrollment disputes are mediated according to 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(E);
- the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied homeless youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin;
- school personnel who serve homeless children and youths receive professional development and other support;
- unaccompanied homeless youths are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards established for other students, and are informed of their status as independent students and assisted to receive verification of their status for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).



Common Signs of Homelessness

Note: While these are considered common signs, please recognize that they only offer general guidance. There is significant variability within the school-age homeless population. Individual students may differ significantly from the following general characteristics.

Lack of Educational Continuity

- Attendance at many different schools
- Missing records needed to enroll
- Inability to pay fees
- Gaps in skill development
- Mistaken assessment of abilities
- Poor organizational skills
- Poor ability to conceptualize

Poor Health/Nutrition

- Missing immunizations & medical records
- Unmet medical & dental needs
- Respiratory problems
- Skin rashes
- Chronic hunger or food hoarding
- Fatigue (may fall asleep in class)

Transportation & Attendance Problems

- Erratic attendance and tardiness
- Numerous absences
- Lack of participation in afterschool activities
- Lack of participation in field trips
- Inability to contact parents

Poor Hygiene

- Lacking shower facilities/washers, etc.
- Wearing clothes several days
- Inconsistent grooming

Lack of Personal Space After School

- Consistent lack of preparation for school
 - Incomplete or missing homework

 - Unable to complete special projects
 - Lacking basic school supplies
 - Loss of books and supplies on regular basis
 - Elevated concern for safety of belongings
- ### ***Social and Behavioral Concerns***
- A marked change in behavior

- Poor/short attention span
- Poor self-esteem
- Extreme shyness
- Unwilling to form relationships with peers & teachers
- Difficulty socializing at recess or lunch periods
- Difficulty trusting people
- Aggression
- "Old" beyond years
- Overly protective of parents
- Clinging behavior
- Developmental delays
- Fear of abandonment
- School phobia (afraid to leave parent)
- Anxiety, especially late in the school day

Reactions or Statements by Parents, Guardians, or Students

- Exhibiting anger or embarrassment when asked about current address
- Avoidance of questions related to current address
- Statements about staying with grandparents, other relatives, friends, or in motels & campgrounds
- Statements such as:
 - "I don't remember the name of the last school."
 - "We've been moving around a lot."
 - "Our address is new; I can't remember it."
 - "We're staying with relatives until we get settled."
 - "We're going through a bad time right now."

Adapted from flyers developed by the Illinois & Pennsylvania Departments of Education. For more information on homeless education, visit the National Center for Homeless Education website at: nche.ed.gov

Appendix 15.C School Level Point of Contact Information

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires that every school district provide education and related services for students experiencing homelessness. In order to ensure our district remains in compliance with the law while providing an education of the highest quality to homeless students, a point of contact is needed in every building. This person will work with the local liaison to ensure students are identified and given appropriate opportunities to enroll, attend, and succeed in school. To assist with these tasks, the local liaison will provide support and training for the building level points of contact.

Please identify the most appropriate building level point of contact and provide his or her information below.

School Name: **Dibble Public School**

Contact Name: Becky Lee or Chad Clanton

Direct Phone Extension: 833-324-1173 Ext 104 or ext Ext 134

Email: lee@dibble.k12.ok.us or clanton@dibble.k12.ok.us

If you need assistance determining the most appropriate person for this role in your building, please contact the local liaison for assistance. Once the building contact is identified, **please return this form to the local liaison no later than September of the current year.**

The local liaison for our district is:

Becky Lee Phone: 833-327-1173 Email: lee@dibble.k12.ok.us