

WINDOW ROCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 8.  
2024 DISTRICT ORIENTATION

**MCKINNEY-VENTO  
HOMELESS EDUCATION  
PROGRAM**



A stylized, light gray graphic of a hand with fingers spread, positioned on the left side of the slide.

# McKinney- Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires that children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youth. To ensure access to educational and other services necessary to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held, State educational agencies and local educational agencies are required to develop, review, and revise policies and procedures to remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success of children and youth experiencing homelessness (*42 U.S.C. §§11431-11432*).



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- Immediate enrollment without documents.
  - School stability.
  - Transportation to school of origin.
  - Eliminate barriers = ensure school policies and procedures are fair.
  - Unaccompanied youth=immediate enrollment.
  - No judgment = communicate with sensitivity and understanding.
  - No discrimination = create a safe, confidential environment.
  - Resource referrals.
  - Address the social-emotional needs.
  - District liaison assigned to every school district.
  - Dispute resolution process.
  - Receive ongoing support the ADE homeless education program.

## Key Provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act

# McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless

Those who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including students:

- Sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to a lack of alternative, adequate accommodation
- Living in emergency & transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations or similar situations
- Migratory children living in the above situations

*42 U.S.C. § 11434a(2)*

# Fixed, Regular, and Adequate



What exactly is a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence?

Fixed

Stationary, permanent, not subject to change.

Regular

Used on a predictable, routine, consistent basis.

Consider the relative permanence.

Adequate

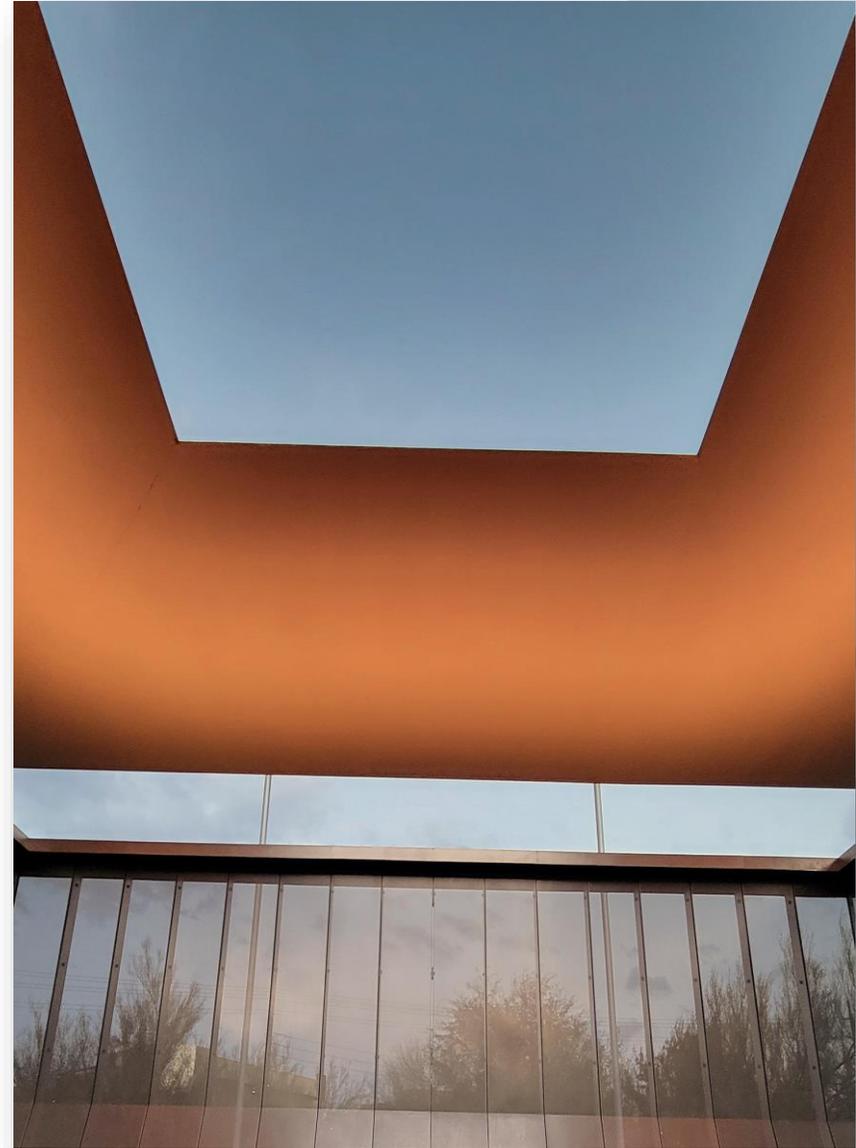
Lawfully and reasonably sufficient.

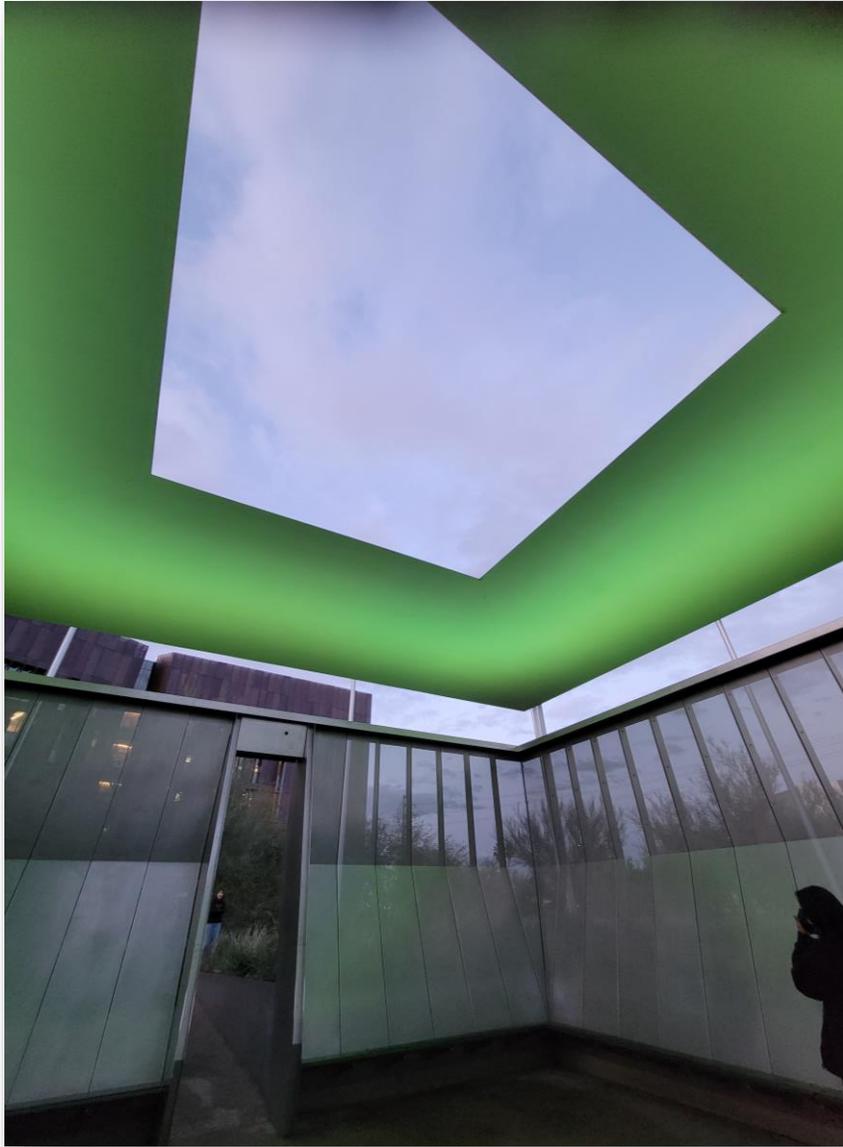
Sufficient for meeting the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment.

Can the student go to the SAME PLACE (fixed) EVERY NIGHT (regular) to sleep in a SAFE AND SUFFICIENT SPACE (adequate)?

- The term *unaccompanied youth* includes a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. *42 U.S.C. § 11434a(6)*
- An unaccompanied homeless youth is a young person who is both homeless (meeting McKinney-Vento definition) and unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian).
- Liaison must assist UHY with enrollment, school selection, & dispute resolution
- Have the same right to immediate enrollment & educational services as other students

## Unaccompanied Homeless Youth





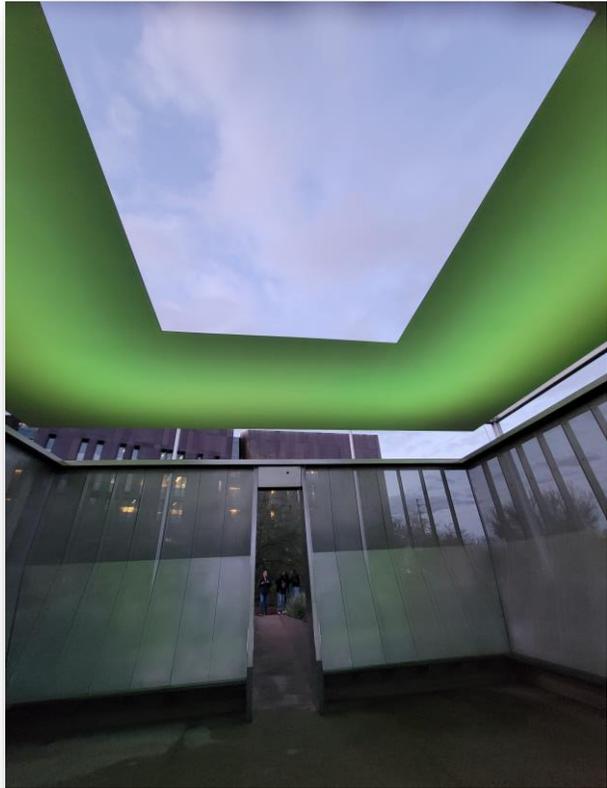
Definition: child or youth who meets the McKinney-Vento definition and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. 11434a(6)

- Many youth become separated from parents due to lack of space in living situations or shelter policies.
- Many flee abuse: 20-50% sexual; 40-60% physical.
- Many flee family dysfunction: Over 2/3 Hotline callers report at least one parent abuses drugs or alcohol.
- Roughly 1/3 homeless youth identify as LGBTQ.
- 10% of currently homeless female teens are pregnant.
- Many are not enrolled in school.

NEHCY

## Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

# Barriers to Education for Homeless Children and Unaccompanied Youth



- Stereotypes and lack of awareness.
- Under-identification.
- High mobility resulting in lack of school stability and educational continuity.
- Enrollment requirements (school records, health records, proof of residence, guardianship).
- Poor health, fatigue, hunger.
- Emotional trauma, depression, anxiety.
- Lack of transportation.
- Lack of school supplies, clothing, etc.

NEHCY

# Impacts of Homelessness on Children and Unaccompanied Youth

- Higher incidences of acute and chronic illnesses, depression and anxiety.
- Homelessness in early childhood is associated with poor classroom engagement and poor social skills in early elementary school.
- The achievement gaps between homeless and low-income elementary students tend to persist, and may even worsen, over time.
- A youth who experiences homelessness is 87% more likely to drop out of school.

NEHCY



# McKinney-Vento Student Eligibility Questionnaire

Questionnaires are part of the new and returning student enrollment packets.

- If question on temporary living arrangement is answered "yes," and the address listed on the SEQ is within the school boundaries enroll the student immediately and send SEQ form to McKinney-Vento Liaison.
- The McKinney-Vento Liaison will follow up with the parent, guardian, caregiver, or student to conduct an interview. The school site will receive a notification to confirm the eligibility decision.

**SY 2024-2025 Window Rock Unified School District No. 8 Student Residency Questionnaire** ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL

Information contained on this form is confidential and used to determine whether a child or youth meets the definition of homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act, The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program as authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.). Please note, false claims about living situations may affect enrollment.

**Section A**

Name of individual completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Last school attended: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have additional children attending school in our district? Yes  No  Do you have children of the preschool age? Yes  No

**Please provide information about additional children attending school in our district or of preschool age.**

Last Name	First Name	Grade	School	District

Address of where the student slept last night: \_\_\_\_\_

**Is this address based on a temporary living arrangement? Yes  No**   
(Examples: hotel; shelter; transitional housing; sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; car; park; campsite.)

**NOTE: If you checked "No" to the temporary living arrangement, you may STOP here.**  
**If you checked "Yes", please continue to Section B.**

**Section B**

Name of the parent/guardian/adult caring for the student: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the student: \_\_\_\_\_

If the address you provided in **Section A** is based on a temporary living arrangement, is it due to loss of housing or economic hardship? Yes  No

Please place an "X" in each box that best describes where the student sleeps at night.

In a place that does not have windows, doors, running water, heat, electricity, or overcrowded.

Staying with a friend or relative because of loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason.  
(Example: eviction, foreclosure, fire, flood, lost job, divorce, domestic violence, kicked out by parents, ran away from home)

What date did you begin staying here? \_\_\_\_\_

In a shelter/transitional housing program (name of agency): \_\_\_\_\_  
 What date did you begin staying here? \_\_\_\_\_

In an unsheltered location (e.g. tent, vehicle, abandoned building, streets, campground, park, bus/train station, or similar place)  
 Provide the main cross streets of this unsheltered location: \_\_\_\_\_

In a hotel/motel (name of hotel/motel & address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 What date did you begin staying here? \_\_\_\_\_

With an adult that is not a parent or court appointed legal guardian.

Alone, not in the care of a parent or court appointed legal guardian.

None of the above (Please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

**The following signature certifies that the information provided above is accurate. False claims about living situations may affect enrollment.**

Signature of Person Providing Information \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For McKinney-Vento District Liaison Use Only**

Please note, the student's cumulative file should not include a copy of this form. Do not make copies of this form. If Section B is filled out, please notify the LEA Homeless Education Liaison, and provide the original form to them.

Name of school site personnel who enrolled the student: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the housing types that apply:  
 Sheltered  Doubled-up  Unsheltered/FEMA/Substandard  Hotel/Motel

Unaccompanied youth: Yes  No  Transportation to school of origin needed: Yes  No

WRUSD M.V. District Liaison Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Contact

WRUSD Homeless Liaison  
Email: [tbenally@wrschool.net](mailto:tbenally@wrschool.net)  
Phone: 928-729-6822  
Location WRUSD Admin. Bldg.

Arizona State  
Rita Rodriguez  
State Coordinator for Homeless Education  
Arizona Department of Education, Bin #2  
Office of Communications & Community Outreach  
1535 West Jefferson Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
(602) 542.4963  
[www.azed.gov/homeless](http://www.azed.gov/homeless)

## Resources

Arizona Department of Education  
Office of Homeless Education  
<https://www.azed.gov/homeless/>

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)  
Helpline: 1-800-308-2145  
[homeless@serve.org](mailto:homeless@serve.org)  
<https://nche.ed.gov/contact.php>

U.S. Department of Education  
Education for Homeless Children and Youth  
[HomelessEd@ed.gov](mailto:HomelessEd@ed.gov)  
<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/index.html>