



# The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

[http://www.education.ne.gov/COMMISH/Administrators\\_Days\\_NDE\\_Day.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/COMMISH/Administrators_Days_NDE_Day.html)



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# Purpose

- To provide students in homeless situations equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to non-homeless students.  
(see yellow colored handout)



# The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Act

- Public Law 100-77
- Signed July 22, 1987 by Ronald Reagan
- Title VII Part B “The Education of Homeless Children and Youth



# ESEA

- Public Law 89-10
- Signed by Lyndon Johnson as part of his “War on Poverty” on April 9, 1965
- Reauthorized every six years
- Two most recent reauthorizations have address changes to Title VII Part B of the McKinney Act



# IASA

- Public Law 103-382
- Signed by Bill Clinton on October 20, 1994
- Greater Flexibility with Funds
- Preschoolers Eligible
- Parent voice in student placement



# NCLB

- Public Law 107-110
- Signed by George Bush on January 8, 2002
- Title X Part C
- Expanded definition for homeless children and youth (see pink-colored handout)
- Expanded rights and responsibilities
- The McKinney-Vento Act is a federal program but is not an NCLB Program



# Student Rights

- Immediate enrollment and attendance
- Transportation to and from school of origin
- Automatically eligible for free meals  
(see salmon-colored handout)



# FAFSA

“College Cost Reduction  
and Access Act of 2007”

Easier to apply for, and receive,  
Federal Financial Aid



# “Independent Students”

- Unaccompanied and Homeless Youth
- Unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self supporting
- Foster Youth and Former Foster Youth (since age 13)

Parental income not required or used

Parental signature not necessary



# Verification

- Local Homeless Education Liaison
- US Dept. of HUD homeless assistance program director or designee
- Runaway and Homeless Youth Act Program Director or designee
- A Financial Aid Administrator

Verified as unaccompanied in the academic year in which they apply for aid



# All Districts

- Condition of Funding
- Homeless Education Liaison  
(see lavender-colored handout)
- Dispute Resolution Process



# Major Barriers

- Frequent Moves (school to school)
- Transportation
- Guardianship and immunization requirements



# Major Barriers

- Student fees / expenses
- Difficulty with access to publicly funded programs such as Head Start, Even Start, and special education services.
- Lack of Awareness



# Awareness

- Common signs that a student may be in a homeless situation

Note: these are general guidelines, there is significant variability among the school age population



# Lack of Continuity in Education

- Attending many different schools, or no schools
- Lack of records needed for enrollment
- Gaps in skill development



# Poor Health / Nutrition

- Lack of immunizations  
(&/or records)
- Unmet medical / dental needs
- Chronic Hunger / Food Hoarding
- Fatigue / Falling asleep in class



# Transportation and attendance problems

- Erratic attendance / tardiness
- Inability to contact parents
- Numerous Absences
- Avoidance of class field trips



# Poor Hygiene

- Wearing same clothes for several days
- Lack of cleanliness of self / clothing



# Not Ready for Class

- Lack of basic supplies
- Concern for safety of belongings
- Incomplete or missing homework



# Social and Behavioral Clues

- Frequent behavior changes
- 'Old' beyond years
- Protective of parents
- Poor / short attention span
- Poor self-esteem
- Difficulty or avoidance in making friends
- Difficulty in trusting people
- Need for immediate gratification



# Parent, Guardian, or Child Reactions

- Anger or embarrassment when asked for current address
- Mention of staying with grandparents, other relatives, friends, or motel, etc.. .



# Nebraska's Program

- Annual Competition
- Application Quality and Need
  - Title I Part A Match



# Eleven Districts Funded

Crete

Omaha

Fremont

Papillion-LaVista

Grand Island

Scottsbluff

Hastings

Westside

Kearney

Lexington

Lincoln



# Contact Information

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of Education

Nebraska State Office Building

(6<sup>th</sup> Floor)

301 Centennial Mall South

PO Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



# Other Resources

The National Association for the Education of  
Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY)

PO Box 26274

Minneapolis, MN 55426

Phone: (763) 545-0064

Fax: (763) 545-9499

Email: [info@naehcy.org](mailto:info@naehcy.org)

Web: [www.naehcy.org](http://www.naehcy.org)



# Other Resources

National Center for Homeless Education  
(NCHE)

PO Box 5367

Greensboro, NC 27435

Phone: (800) 308-2145

Fax: (336) 315-7457

Email: [homeless@serve.org](mailto:homeless@serve.org)

Web: [www.serve.org/nche/](http://www.serve.org/nche/)



# Other Resources

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty  
(NLCHP)

1411 K Street NW, Suite 1400

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: (202) 638-2535

Fax: (202) 628-2737

Email: see website to email

Web: [www.nlchp.org](http://www.nlchp.org)

