

Module 2: Facts About Family Homelessness in Early Childhood Transcript

Supporting Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness
An Interactive Learning Series for Early Childhood Professionals

Welcome

This module is intended for professionals in Head Start, Early Head Start and child care, including early childhood and school-age child care providers, Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Lead Agency (or designated entity) staff, and other key stakeholders.

Module Features

Before you get started, take a moment to review the features of this module. Select the numbered buttons on this page to learn more about each feature. When you are finished, choose "Next."

Select the **Menu** tab to:

- See a drop-down list of the module's contents
- Jump to a particular section by selecting its title
- Check your progress by selecting "Completion Status"
- Access your Certificate of Completion once you have completed all sections of this module

Select the **Transcript** tab to open a printable text version of this module.

Choose the **Resources** tab for a printable list of reference citations.

Select the **Federal Policies** tab for links to sections of federal legislation and regulations related to family homelessness.

The **page numbers** show how many pages you have completed in a specific section, and how many you have left to complete.

Select the "**Play**" button to play the narration on each slide.

Select the "**Pause**" button to pause the narration on each slide.

Choose "**Previous**" to return to the previous slide.

Choose "**Next**" to go to the next slide.

Module Instructions

- Each module takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. You can spend as much or as little time as you like on a module, depending on your level of experience.
- If you are using your own computer, you can stop a module and come back to it later; the program will remember where you left off. However, if you are using a computer that others will also use to access the learning series, plan to finish the module in one sitting.
- Select the Transcript tab to download or print the text version of the module.
- Select the Federal Policies tab for direct links to the federal legislation and regulations referenced in this module. You can bookmark these links for future reference.
- Select the Resources tab to view the full list of reference citations. A number at the end of a sentence indicates a reference citation.
- When you select a link within the module or through one of the tabs, the page will open in a new tab. To return to the module, select the module tab.
- When you finish all sections of this module, you can download a Certificate of Completion.

Introduction to Module 2

In this module, learn about the:

- Causes and nature of homelessness among families
- Challenges faced by children and families experiencing homelessness, including barriers to program participation
- Federal laws and regulations that identify requirements for federally-funded programs and agencies related to homelessness

Facts About Family Homelessness

Today, a large and growing number of children are living in families experiencing homelessness. Many factors can cause homelessness. The state of homelessness creates multiple challenges for families and children.

Head Start, Early Head Start, and early childhood programs that receive CCDF funding can help with some of these challenges. In particular, these programs can provide stability, support, and enriching experiences that promote healthy development and learning.

Explore facts about families and homelessness.

Fact 1: A growing number of children are experiencing homelessness.

An estimated total of 1,266,605 children under the age of 6 experienced homelessness in 2013.¹ According to a federal government's 2012 homelessness report, in 2012, 12 percent of children who were living in family shelters funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2012 were under age 1, and more than 50 percent were age 5 or younger.²

Infants are the most vulnerable of all populations. However, infancy is the period of life when a child is at greatest risk of living in a homeless shelter in the United States.³

According to data from the U.S. Department of Education, 1,263,323 students in grades pre-K through 12 experienced homelessness during the 2014–15 school year. Sixty-one percent of these students were in grades pre-K through six, and 58 percent were in grades K through six.⁴

Knowledge Check

Let's check your knowledge. How many young children under the age of 6 have been identified as experiencing homelessness?

- A. More than 2 million
- B. More than 1 million
- C. 0.5 million
- D. Fewer than 0.5 million

Correct! The answer is B.

According to data from 2013, an estimated 1,266,605 children under the age of 6 have been identified as experiencing homelessness.¹

That is not correct; the answer is B.

According to data from 2013, an estimated 1,266,605 children under the age of 6 have been identified as experiencing homelessness.¹

Knowledge Check

How many school-age children (K–six) have been identified as experiencing homelessness?

- A. More than 2 million
- B. More than 1 million
- C. More than 0.5 million
- D. Fewer than 0.5 million

Correct! The answer is c.

According to data from the U.S. Department of Education, the number of students experiencing homelessness enrolled in grades K–six for the 2014–15 school year was 731,617.

That is not correct; the answer is c.

According to data from the U.S. Department of Education, the number of students experiencing homelessness enrolled in grades K–six for the 2014–15 school year was 731,617.

Fact 2: Many factors can cause families to experience homelessness.

The primary causes of homelessness among families include one or more of the following:

- Lack of affordable housing
- Poverty, often caused by low-wage employment, unemployment, and lack of education
- The impact of national economic downturns
- Fact 2: Many factors can cause families to experience homelessness, cont.
- Health challenges, including mental health and addiction
- Domestic violence and other traumatic events
- Natural disasters, such as floods and hurricanes
- Challenging economic situations and frequent moves due to immigration status^{5,6,7}

Knowledge Check

Let's take a minute to see what you've learned. What are some causes of homelessness among families?

- A. Lack of affordable housing
- B. Parents' health challenges
- C. Natural disasters
- D. Unemployment
- E. Domestic violence
- F. All of the above

<p>Correct! The answer is F.</p> <p>Causes of homelessness among families include all of answers listed. Understanding the causes of homelessness can help staff better work with families and make connections to appropriate community resources.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is F.</p> <p>Causes of homelessness among families include all of the answers listed. Understanding the causes of homelessness can help staff better work with families and make connections to appropriate community resources.</p>
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Fact 3: Families experiencing homelessness stay in a variety of places.

Families experiencing homelessness stay in a variety of places, including shelters, motels, cars, transitional housing provided by programs, and temporarily with other people.

According to 2013–14 data from the U.S. Department of Education, 15 percent of children and youth who are enrolled in public schools and who experience homelessness stay in shelters; 75 percent stay with other people because they have nowhere else to go; six percent stay in motels; and three percent live unsheltered.⁸

These situations are often risky, crowded, unstable, and unsafe. Therefore, it is common for families experiencing homelessness to move among all of these situations.

These conditions are challenging for many reasons, including:

- Emergency shelters in urban and suburban areas are often full and have to turn people away
- Rural and some suburban areas may not have shelters at all
- Many shelters limit eligibility (e.g., shelters often do not allow unaccompanied minors or families with adolescent boys)
- Youth who are experiencing homelessness may be afraid to enter an adult shelter, even if they are allowed

- Some shelters designed for families with children do not allow men to stay, which makes it difficult for single fathers or for two-parent families to stay together
- Shelters also often have stay limits, only allowing families to stay for 30, 60, or 90 days.
- Families and youth may not have enough money to stay at a motel.
- Families and youth may leave their homes in crisis, fleeing to the first available location.
- Recent changes in federal housing policy, called Diversion and Rapid Rehousing, often guide families away from publicly-funded shelters and toward staying in motels or with others.

Knowledge Check

Now we'll take a minute to check your understanding. Where do families experiencing homelessness stay?

- A. Shelters
- B. With friends and families
- C. Motels
- D. Cars
- E. All of the above

Correct! The answer is E.

Families experiencing homelessness stay in a variety of places, including shelters, motels, cars, transitional housing provided by programs, and temporarily with other people. These situations are often risky, crowded, unstable, and unsafe. Therefore, it is common for families experiencing homelessness to move among all of these situations.

That is not correct; the answer is E.

Families experiencing homelessness stay in a variety of places, including shelters, motels, cars, transitional housing provided by programs, and temporarily with other people. These situations are often risky, crowded, unstable, and unsafe. Therefore, it is common for families experiencing homelessness to move among all of these situations.

Knowledge Check

What percentage of children and youth who experience homelessness and enroll in public schools stay in shelters?

- A. 3 percent
- B. 6 percent
- C. 15 percent
- D. 25 percent
- E. 75 percent

Correct! The answer is C.

According to 2013–14 data from the U.S. Department of Education, 15 percent of school-age children experiencing homelessness stay in shelters.

That is not correct; the answer is C.

According to 2013–14 data from the U.S. Department of Education, 15 percent of school-age children experiencing homelessness stay in shelters.

Fact 4: Homelessness creates many challenges for families.

Homelessness creates many challenges for families, including:

- Inadequate basic needs (e.g., food, sleep, health care, and safe and stable living conditions)
- Mental health issues, such as a profound sense of loss, anxiety, or depression
- Safety concerns and fears related to domestic violence
- Not knowing where to find help
- Lack of resources to ensure a safe home environment
- Feelings of embarrassment about their inability to provide for their family
- Transportation challenges, including the inability to get to work, early childhood programs, school-age child care, school, or other programs
- Barriers to finding work, such as lack of child care
- Disruption or loss of usual social supports, such as family members, friends, or neighbors

Knowledge Check

Let's see what you remember from Fact #4. Challenges for families experiencing homelessness may include:

- A. Not knowing where to find help
- B. Transportation challenges, including the inability to get to work, early childhood programs, school-age child care, or school
- C. Disruption or loss of usual social supports, such as family members, friends, or neighbors
- D. Safety concerns and fears related to domestic violence
- E. All of the above

<p>Correct! The answer is E.</p> <p>Challenges for families experiencing homeless may include all of the answers listed.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is E.</p> <p>Challenges for families experiencing homeless may include all of the answers listed.</p>
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Fact 5: Homelessness creates many challenges for children.

Homelessness is highly disruptive to a child's life. It interferes with healthy growth and development, and it negatively affects a child's feelings of safety and security.

Children experiencing homelessness may be challenged by:

- Frequent moves, which can disrupt consistent participation in early childhood and school-age child care programs and result in a loss of structure, stability, and relationships with caregivers, teachers, and peers
- Inadequate access to food and health care
- Difficulty sleeping and eating
- Lack of access to safe and developmentally appropriate living spaces and experiences
- Trauma and loss
- Higher rates of developmental delays, difficulty in school, and chronic and acute physical and mental health problems
- Disrupted or insecure attachments to caregivers

Knowledge Check

Here's another brief knowledge check. Which of the following challenges do children experiencing homelessness not face?

- A. Acute physical problems
- B. Lower rates of developmental delays
- C. Trauma and Loss
- D. Difficulties with sleeping and eating
- E. Acute mental health problems

<p>Correct! The answer is B.</p> <p>Children experiencing homelessness may experience higher rates of developmental delays.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is B.</p> <p>Children experiencing homelessness may experience higher rates of developmental delays</p>
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Fact 6: Homelessness negatively impacts child development, school readiness, and academic outcomes.

Studies have found that experiences of homelessness in infancy and early childhood are associated with:

- Acute and chronic health problems (e.g., asthma) and inadequate access to medical and dental care
- More social, emotional, cognitive, and physical developmental delays (e.g., language, fine motor, and social skills)
- Greater risk for behavior problems in school (e.g., challenges in focusing attention)
- Poor academic outcomes (e.g., below grade-level performance)⁹

Children who are experiencing homelessness need extra support. Head Start, Early Head Start, and programs that receive CCDF funding, including school-age child care programs, can provide that support.

These programs can serve as sources of stability, resources, and enriching experiences that strengthen families and promote healthy development and learning. These programs can also support connections to community resources that are often missing in the lives of families experiencing homelessness.

Knowledge Check

Let's check your learning so far. How does homelessness negatively impact child development and learning?

- A. Below grade-level academic performance
- B. Developmental delays in language, fine motor, and social skills
- C. Challenges focusing attention
- D. Chronic health problems
- E. All of the above

<p>Correct! The answer is E.</p> <p>Studies have found that homelessness is associated with acute and chronic health problems (e.g., asthma), inadequate access to medical and dental care, developmental delays, and below grade-level academic performance.¹⁰</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is E.</p> <p>Studies have found that homelessness is associated with acute and chronic health problems (e.g., asthma), inadequate access to medical and dental care, developmental delays, and below grade-level academic performance.¹⁰</p>
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Fact 7: Families experiencing homelessness face barriers to early childhood and school-age child care programs.

The state of homelessness can create many barriers to program participation, including:

- **Lack of required documents.** Families may lack documents that early childhood programs require for enrollment, such as immunization records and birth certificates.
- **Lack of transportation.** Families who relocate often do not have vehicles or money for transportation to programs.
- **High mobility.** Families are often forced to move among temporary living situations. Therefore, their children's attendance in program may not be consistent, or families may leave the service area altogether.
- **Invisibility of homelessness.** Most families stay in a variety of unstable situations. These largely hidden living arrangements make it difficult to identify and reach out to these families.
- **Stigma.** Families often keep their situation and circumstances hidden from friends and professionals because they worry about being judged. They may also feel ashamed or embarrassed. Families may not ask for help or be aware that services are available to them because of these reasons.
- **Lack of awareness.** Professionals may not be aware of the extent of family homelessness in their communities. Social service providers who work with families experiencing homelessness may not understand the unique needs of young children, or know what programs are available for them.¹¹

Knowledge Check

Let's take another break to check your knowledge.

Families experiencing homelessness often keep their situation and circumstances hidden from friends and professionals for fear of being judged. This situation is an example of which barrier to participating in programs?

- A. Invisibility of homelessness
- B. Stigma
- C. Lack of awareness
- D. Lack of required documents

<p>Correct! The answer is B.</p> <p>Families often keep their situation and circumstances hidden from friends and professionals because they worry about being judged. They may also feel ashamed or embarrassed. For these reasons, families may not ask for help.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is B.</p> <p>Families often keep their situation and circumstances hidden from friends and professionals because they worry about being judged. They may also feel ashamed or embarrassed. For these reasons, families may not ask for help.</p>
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Knowledge Check

Why might a child's attendance in an early childhood or school-age child care program be inconsistent?

- A. Lack of awareness
- B. High mobility
- C. Lack of transportation
- D. B and C
- E. A and C

<p>Correct! The answer is D.</p> <p>Families experiencing homelessness are often forced to move among temporary living situations. They also may not have vehicles or money for transportation.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is D.</p> <p>Families experiencing homelessness are often forced to move among temporary living situations. They also may not have vehicles or money for transportation.</p>
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Fact 8: Head Start, Early Head Start, and early childhood programs that receive funding through CCDF subsidies use the definition of "homeless children and youth." It is included in Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)], and is hereinafter referred to as the "McKinney-Vento Act's definition."

The following programs are required to use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless children and youth":

- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Early childhood and school-age child care programs that receive CCDF subsidies
- Public schools and programs under Parts B and C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The definition refers to "children and youths who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The McKinney-Vento Act's definition specifically includes children living in emergency shelters, motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, parks, public spaces, or abandoned buildings. It also includes those sharing the home of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies or Appendix B to view the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless.

Knowledge Check

What did you learn about the McKinney-Vento Act?

The McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless" refers to:

- A. Children and youths who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- B. Only children and youths who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- C. Children and youths living in emergency shelters only
- D. Only children and youths living in emergency shelters
- E. Only children and youths living in cars and shelters

<p>Correct! The answer is A.</p> <p>The McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless" refers to "children and youths who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."</p> <p>This definition specifically includes children living in emergency shelters, motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, parks, public spaces, or abandoned buildings, and those sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is A.</p> <p>The McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless" refers to "children and youths who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."</p> <p>This definition specifically includes children living in emergency shelters, motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, parks, public spaces, or abandoned buildings, and those sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.</p>
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Review of Federal Laws and Regulations

Now that you have learned facts about family homelessness, let's review the federal laws and regulations that govern Head Start, Early Head Start, and other federally-funded early childhood and school-age child care programs.

Choose the version that most closely aligns with your interests.

- Head Start and Early Head Start
- Child Care and Development Fund

Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start Program Performance Standards

According to the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS), Head Start and Early Head Start programs must:

- Use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless children and youths" (see Appendix B)
- Include homelessness in your community needs assessments
- Identify children experiencing homelessness and prioritize them for enrollment
- Make efforts to maintain the enrollment of children experiencing homelessness when the family or child moves to a different service area, or make efforts to transition the child to a program in a different service area, according to the family's needs
- Allow children experiencing homelessness to attend for up to 90 days without immunization and other records (or as long as allowed under state licensing requirements), and work with families to get children immunized as soon as possible
- Use community resources to provide transportation to homeless children if a lack thereof poses a barrier to program participation, where possible
- Establish partnerships with community organizations, including housing assistance agencies and the local educational agency (LEA) liaison
- Make efforts to support effective transitions to other Head Start or Early Head Start programs when families experiencing homelessness move out of the community where they are currently being served

If a program determines from the community assessment that there are families experiencing homelessness in the area, the program may reserve one or more enrollment slots for pregnant women and children when a vacancy occurs. Up to three percent of a program's funded enrollment may be reserved for pregnant women and children experiencing homelessness.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies and HSPPS.

Knowledge Check: HSPPS

Here’s a brief knowledge check: According to the HSPPS, Head Start and Early Head Start programs are required to use the definition of "homeless children and youths" from which of the following?

- A. IDEA
- B. McKinney-Vento Act
- C. Local school district-established policy
- D. HUD regulations

<p>Correct! The answer is B.</p> <p>Head Start and Early Head Start programs are required to use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless children and youths.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is B.</p> <p>Head Start and Early Head Start programs are required to use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless children and youths.</p>
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Other Federal Laws and Regulations

Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)] and IDEA identify requirements for local educational agencies (LEA), state education agencies, and Early Intervention (Part C) Lead Agencies

<p>Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)]</p>	<p>https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/</p>
<p>IDEA identify requirements for local educational agencies (LEA), state education agencies, and Early Intervention (Part C) Lead Agencies</p>	<p>https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/idea.pdf</p>

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)], every LEA must designate a liaison for children and youth who are experiencing homelessness.

The LEA homeless liaison has many responsibilities, including identifying children in homeless situations and ensuring their access to Head Start, Early Head Start, early intervention services under IDEA Part C, or other quality early childhood services.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school. They also have the right to receive transportation to and from their school of origin. "School of origin" refers to the school a child attended when permanently housed, or the school in which he or she was last enrolled.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies.

Knowledge Check

Let’s see what else you’ve learned about the McKinney-Vento Act. Which of these requirements is false according to the McKinney-Vento Act?

- A. Every LEA must designate a liaison for children and youth who are experiencing homelessness.
- B. Children and youth experiencing homelessness cannot stay in their school of origin if they move outside of the area served by that school.
- C. Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to receive transportation to and from their school of origin.

<p>Correct! The answer is B. According to the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is B. According to the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school.</p>
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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires any state receiving a Part C grant to make early intervention services available to infants and toddlers with disabilities whose families are experiencing homelessness.

The Child Find section of IDEA requires states to ensure that all children with disabilities experiencing homelessness are located and evaluated.

Any state that receives IDEA funding must ensure that the educational requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act are met for all children with disabilities in homeless situations.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies and the IDEA provisions on early childhood.

Knowledge Check

One more knowledge check for this section: Which of these statements apply to states receiving funding through IDEA Part C?

- A. States are required to make early intervention services available to infants and toddlers with disabilities whose families are experiencing homelessness.
- B. States must ensure that all children with disabilities experiencing homelessness are located and evaluated as part of the Child Find requirement of IDEA.
- C. States must ensure that the educational requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act are met for all children with disabilities in homeless situations.
- D. All of the above

<p>Correct! The answer is D.</p> <p>All of these statements apply to any state that receives funding through Part C of IDEA.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is D.</p> <p>All of these statements apply to any state that receives funding through Part C of IDEA.</p>
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Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule

The CCDF Final Rule is based on the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) of 2014. It requires Lead Agencies to:

- Use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless children and youths"
- Coordinate the provision of child care services with other early childhood programs, including those that serve children experiencing homelessness
- Establish a grace period that allows children experiencing homelessness to receive services while providing families a reasonable amount of time to comply with immunization and other health and safety requirements
- Give priority for services to children experiencing homelessness
 - Lead Agencies have flexibility about how they meet this requirement, which does not necessarily guarantee a CCDF subsidy
- Improve access to services by expending funds to:
 - Develop procedures to permit enrollment while required documents are acquired
 - Provide training and technical assistance to child care providers and Lead Agency staff about identifying and serving children experiencing homelessness and their families
 - Offer specific outreach to families experiencing homelessness

- Provide to the Office of Child Care quarterly case-level reports, which include whether a family is experiencing homelessness

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies and the CCDF Final Rule.

Knowledge Check: CCDF

Here's a quick knowledge check:

According to the CCDF Final Rule, Lead Agencies are required to use the definition of "homeless children and youths" from which of the following?

- A. IDEA
- B. McKinney-Vento Act
- C. Local school district established policy
- D. HUD regulations

<p>Correct! The answer is B.</p> <p>Early childhood and school-age child care programs that receive CCDF funding are required to use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless children and youths.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is B.</p> <p>Early childhood and school-age child care programs that receive CCDF funding are required to use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless children and youths.</p>
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Other Federal Laws and Regulations Review

Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)] and IDEA identify requirements for local educational agencies (LEA), state educational agencies, and Early Intervention (Part C) Lead Agencies

<p>Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)]</p>	<p>https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/</p>
<p>IDEA identify requirements for local educational agencies (LEA), state education agencies, and Early Intervention (Part C) Lead Agencies</p>	<p>https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/idea.pdf</p>

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. § 11435a(2)], every LEA must designate a liaison for children and youth who are experiencing homelessness.

The LEA homeless liaison has many responsibilities, including identifying children in homeless situations

and ensuring their access to Head Start, Early Head Start, IDEA Part C early intervention services, or other quality early childhood services.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school. They also have the right to receive transportation to and from their school of origin.

"School of origin" refers to the school a child attended when permanently housed, or the school in which he or she was last enrolled.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies.

Knowledge Check

What else have you learned about the McKinney-Vento Act?

Which of these requirements is false according to the McKinney-Vento Act?

- A. Every LEA must designate a liaison for children and youth who are experiencing homelessness.
- B. Children and youth experiencing homelessness cannot stay in their school of origin if they move outside of the area served by that school.
- C. Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to receive transportation to and from their school of origin.

Correct! The answer is B.

According to the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school.

That is not correct; the answer is B.

According to the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to stay in their school of origin, even if they move outside of the area served by that school.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires any state receiving a Part C grant to make early intervention services available to infants and toddlers with disabilities whose families are experiencing homelessness.

The Child Find section of IDEA requires states to ensure that all children with disabilities experiencing homelessness are located and evaluated.

Any state that receives IDEA funding must ensure that the educational requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act are met for all children with disabilities in homeless situations.

See Appendix A for more information on Federal Policies and the IDEA provisions on early childhood.

Knowledge Check

Which of these statements apply to states receiving funding through IDEA Part C?

- A. States are required to make early intervention services available to infants and toddlers with disabilities whose families are experiencing homelessness.
- B. States must ensure that all children with disabilities experiencing homelessness are located and evaluated as part of the Child Find requirement of IDEA.
- C. States must ensure that the educational requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act are met for all children with disabilities in homeless situations.
- D. All of the above

<p>Correct! The answer is D.</p> <p>All of these statements apply to any state that receives funding through IDEA Part C.</p>	<p>That is not correct; the answer is D.</p> <p>All of these statements apply to any state that receives funding through IDEA Part C.</p>
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Completion Status

To complete Module 2, review all sections listed below. If a section is not checked, use the Menu tab to return to that section.

- ✓ Facts about Family Homelessness
- ✓ Federal Laws and Regulations: Head Start and Early Head Start or Child Care and Development Fund

Once all sections are checked, select the "Next" button to continue to your Certificate of Completion.

Certificate of Completion

Congratulations! You have completed Module 2: Facts About Family Homelessness

To access your certificate, select the "Open Your Certificate" button. A PDF document will open in a separate tab. Enter your name and the date on the certificate. Print or save the certificate to your computer.

Appendix A: Federal Legislation and Regulations Related to Family Homelessness

Federal Legislation and Regulations Related to Family Homelessness	
McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act	https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/
Child Care and Development Fund Reauthorization	https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/ccdf-reauthorization
McKinney-Vento Law Into Practice Brief Series Supporting Homeless Children and Youth with Disabilities: Legislative Provisions in the McKinney-Vento Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	https://nche.ed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/idea.pdf
Head Start Program Performance Standards	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii
Program Operations, 45 CFR § 1302	
Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance, 45 CFR § 1302(A)	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-subpart-eligibility-recruitment-selection-enrollment-attendance
Determining community strengths, needs, and resources, 45 CFR § 1302.11	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-11-determining-community-strengths-needs-resources
Determining, verifying, and documenting eligibility, 45 CFR § 1302.12	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-12-determining-verifying-documenting-eligibility
Recruitment of children, 45 CFR § 1302.13	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-13-recruitment-children
Selection process, 45 CFR § 1302.14	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-14-selection-process
Enrollment, 45 CFR § 1302.15	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-15-enrollment
Attendance, 45 CFR § 1302.16	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-16-attendance
Family and Community Engagement Program Services, 45 CFR § 1302(E)	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-subpart-e-family-community-engagement-program-services
Community partnerships and coordination with other early childhood and education programs, 45 CFR § 1302.53	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-53-community-partnerships-coordination-other-early-childhood-education
Transition Services, 45 CFR § 1302 (G)	
Transitions between programs, 45 CFR § 1302.72 (a)	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1302-subpart-g-transition-services
Definitions, 45 CFR § 1305	
Terms, 45 CFR § 1305.2	https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii/1305-2-terms

Appendix B: The McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless

The McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless

Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act) defines homeless as follows:

The term "homeless children and youths"--

- A. means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and
- B. includes--
 - (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;* (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C)); (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and (iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

*Per Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act, "awaiting foster care placement" was removed from the definition of homeless on December 10, 2016; the only exception to his removal is that "covered states" have until December 10, 2017 to remove "awaiting foster care placement" from their definition of homeless.

View the full text of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act:

<https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title42/chapter119/subchapter6/partB&edition=prelim>

Appendix C: Module 2 Reference Citations

¹ Bassuk, E. L., DeCandia, C. J., Beach, C. A., & Berman, F. (2014). <i>America's youngest outcasts: A report card on child homelessness</i> . Waltham, MA: The National Center on Family Homelessness at American Institutes for Research.
² Administration for Children and Families. (2016, January). <i>Early childhood homelessness in the United States: 50-state profile</i> .
³ Ibid.
⁴ National Center for Homeless Education. (2016, December). <i>Federal data summary—School years 2012–13 to 2014–15: Education for homeless children and youth</i> (p. 11). Greensboro, NC: National Center for Homeless Education.
⁵ The National Center on Family Homelessness. (2011). <i>The characteristics and needs of families experiencing homelessness</i> .
⁶ Bassuk, E. L., DeCandia, C. J., Beach, C. A., & Berman, F. (2014, November). <i>America's youngest outcasts: A report card on child homelessness</i> . Waltham, MA: The National Center on Family Homelessness at American Institutes for Research.
⁷ National Center for Homeless Education. (2009). <i>Immigrant and homeless: Information for local liaisons</i> .
⁸ Child Trends Data Bank. (2015, October). <i>Homeless children and youth: Indicators of child and youth well-being</i> (p. 3).
⁹ McCoy-Roth, M., Mackintosh, B. B., & Murphey, D. (2012, February). When the bough breaks: The effects of homelessness on young children. <i>Child Trends: Early Childhood Highlight</i> , 3(1), 2– 3.
¹⁰ Ibid.
¹¹ National Center for Homeless Education at SERVE. (2013, Fall). <i>Early care and education for children experiencing homelessness</i> .