

### ***What is the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act?***

McKinney-Vento supports students who are homeless by providing them with the right to:

- Continue in the school they attended before becoming homeless or the school last attended if that is their choice
- At a parent's or guardian's request students have the right to transportation to and from their school of origin
- Attend school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless
- Students cannot be separated from the regular school program due to the fact that they are homeless
- Enroll in school without providing a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment
- Enroll and attend classes in the school of their choice even while the school and student who is homeless seek to resolve a dispute over enrollment
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other students served in these programs.

### ***When is a student eligible for support under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act?***

A student is considered homeless if they live in any of the following situations:

- In a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground
- On the street
- "Doubled up" with friends or relatives because they cannot find or afford housing
- In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations

### ***Who determines eligibility?***

When a parent, teacher, counselor, administrator, or other school employee becomes aware of a student who will be, or is currently homeless he/she should contact the school district's Homeless Student Liaison at 303-387-0206.

### ***What is the McKinney-Vento process in Douglas County Schools?***

Once a student's eligibility for support under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is determined, the district's Homeless Student Liaison will:

- Contact the family to discuss their educational rights
- Assist with school enrollment
- Contact the nutrition services coordinator to ensure that students receive free lunch
- Arrange possible transportation
- Provide backpacks and school supplies if needed
- Provide community resource referrals

### **The school district will be responsible for:**

- The Douglas County Homeless Education Program will remove barriers for homeless students to enroll, attend, participate, and succeed in school
- A homeless student liaison has been appointed to help identify and assist homeless students

### **Educational stability and continuity**

- Arranges transportation to keep students in their school of origin
- Ensures the right to attend school of origin for the duration of homelessness or until the end of the academic school year in which they move into permanent housing

### **Strengthening parental involvement**

- Ensures that parents are fully informed of the educational opportunities available to their children
- School administrators will provide written explanation to parents should disputes arise over school selection or school enrollment and will refer the parents to the Homeless Student Liaison to mediate such disputes

### **Ensuring the educational rights of unaccompanied youth**

- Immediately enroll unaccompanied youth
- Arrange transportation to and from school of origin
- Allow equal access to program and services

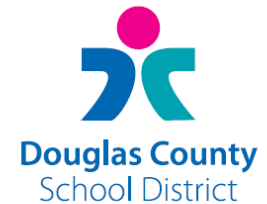
- **Douglas County Human Services**  
303.688.4825  
Food Stamps, Medicaid, Emergency Assistance, Energy Assistance, Veterans Services, and Financial Support
- **Tri County Health Department**  
303.663.7650  
Immunizations, WIC, Family Planning, Women's Wellness
- **Douglas Elbert Task Force**  
303.688.1114  
Emergency Assistance, Food Bank, Clothing Bank
- **Parker Task Force**  
303.841.3460  
Emergency Assistance, Food Bank, Clothing  
[www.parkertaskforce.org](http://www.parkertaskforce.org)
- **Arapahoe/Douglas Works**  
303.688.4825 Ext. 5037  
Employment and job Search Assistance  
[www.adworks.org](http://www.adworks.org)
- **Women's Crisis Center**  
303.688.8484  
Domestic Violence Services  
[www.twcfoc.org](http://www.twcfoc.org)
- **Doctors Care**  
303.730.1313  
Medical care on a sliding fee scale  
[www.doctorscare.com](http://www.doctorscare.com)
- **Douglas County Housing Partnership**  
303.814.2965  
Education, down payment assistance, and housing referrals  
Information and resources for planning low-cost meals, budgeting, managing credit, and developing financial skills

For further information please contact  
the Douglas County School District  
Homeless Student Liaison,  
Dawna Searcy  
303.387.0206

This pamphlet can also be found on  
the Douglas County School District  
website:  
[www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org)



## THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT RESOURCE GUIDE



*Learn today. Lead tomorrow.*

**Douglas County Schools**  
620 Wilcox Street  
Castle Rock, CO 80104  
(303) 387-0080

Please read this pamphlet carefully to ensure complete understanding of the administration of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.