

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School
Policy S15: Homeless Student Policy
Adopted: September 17, 2020

In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will work with homeless children and youths and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school in a manner that will not stigmatize or segregate them on the basis of their status as homeless. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible, including pre-school programs, Title I, similar state programs, educational programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, vocational and technical education programs, gifted and talented programs and school nutrition programs.

Every child of a homeless individual and every homeless child are entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The school will assign and admit a child who is homeless to school regardless of residence or whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment.

The School Leader will review and revise as necessary rules or procedures that may be barriers to enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, the Superintendent will consider issues of transportation, immunization, residence, birth certificates, school records and other documentation.

The School leader will appoint a liaison for homeless children.

A "homeless child" is defined as provided in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Anyone having a concern or complaint regarding placement or education of a homeless child will first present it orally and informally to the school's homeless liaison who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as defined in the state plan for the Education of Homeless Children and Youths.