

INFORMATION For Parents



IF YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter



In a motel or campground due to the lack of adequate housing



In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus/train station



Doubled up (couch surfing) with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act

Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference and is feasible.
 - * If the school district believes that the school selected is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.

If you believe your children may be eligible, contact the local liaison to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.

Homeless Education Liaisons

Ciji Bendolph, LGSW

cbendolph@mcpss.com

251-221-4286 Office
251-459-4463 Cell

Larissa Dickinson, LCSW, PIP

ldickinson@mcpss.com

251-221-4283 Office
251-490-9952 Cell

Denise Riemer, LCSW, PIP

driemer@mcpss.com

251-221-4279 Office
251-508-6671 Cell

**MCPSS Central Office
Student Support Services
Health and Social Services
Homeless Education Program
251-221-4292**

**Homeless Education
State Coordinator
Ladonna Rudolph
lrudolph@alsde.edu
888-725-9321**

If you need further assistance with your children's educational needs, contact the National Center for Homeless Education:
1-800-308-2145 * homeless@serve.org * www.serve.org/nche

