





State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Definition of Homeless

Individuals who lack a fixed, regular,
and adequate nighttime residence

Sharing of housing

Motels, hotels

Public or private place not designed for
sleeping

Trailer parks

Cars, parks, and abandoned buildings



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Definition of Homeless

Continued...

Substandard housing

Shelters

Abandoned in hospitals

Campgrounds

Unaccompanied youths

Awaiting foster care placement

Migratory children who qualify as
homeless



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

= *Equal Access* =

Homeless students have equal access to all programs: GATE, Special Ed., Migrant Ed., ELL programs, Vocational Ed.

They automatically qualify for Title I, School Meals, and After School Programs

Homeless Preschoolers may be given priority enrollment

Unaccompanied youth have the right to enroll without a legal guardian



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

District Liaison

All local educational agencies must have a district liaison

LEA liaisons must ensure that:

Homeless children and youth are identified

Homeless students enroll in, and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in, the schools of the LEA

Homeless families, children, and youth receive educational services





State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Identification Strategies

Coordinate with community service agencies, such as shelters, soup kitchens, food banks, street outreach teams, drop-in centers, welfare departments, housing departments, public health departments, and faith-based organizations

Provide outreach materials and posters where there is a frequent influx of low-income families and youth in high-risk situations, including motels and campgrounds



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Identification Strategies

Continued...

Develop relationships with truancy officials and/or other attendance officers

Provide awareness activities for school staff (registrars, secretaries, school counselors, school social workers, school nurses, teachers, bus drivers, administrators, etc.)

initial contacts with school personnel, families, or youth



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

School Selection

Students have the right to stay in

- for the duration of homelessness;
- if in the best interest of student;
- and,
- parent requested

attended when permanently housed or
last enrolled



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

School Selection

Continued...

Students can stay in their school of origin the entire time they are homeless, and until the end of any academic year in which they move into permanent housing

If a student is sent to a school other than that requested by a parent or



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Feasibility

Sample Criteria

Continuity of instruction

Age of the child/youth

Safety of the student

Length of stay in shelter

programs

Impact of commute on education

School placement of siblings

Time remaining in the school year



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Immediate Enrollment



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Enrollment Strategies

Train all school enrollment staff, secretaries, school counselors, school social workers and principals on the legal requirements for enrollment

Review and revise LEA policies, as necessary

Develop residency forms to replace typical proof of residency

Accept school records directly from families and youth

Establish school-based immunization clinics or



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Dispute Resolution

Whenever there is a disagreement, the school must:

Immediately enroll student in school

Keep the student until the dispute is settled
Provide transportation to the school of origin

Explain the decision in writing to parents

Contact liaison to assist in settling the dispute with parents, guardian, or youth

If dispute is not resolved at the district level, refer case to the county liaison

If case is still not resolved, refer to state coordinator



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Transportation

Must be provided or arranged to and from the school of origin

School districts that provide transportation to and from the school of origin have documented an increase in attendance and achievement which resulted in an increase in funding to the districts

or arrange transportation to and from the request





State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Transportation Strategies

Continued...

Provide passes for public transportation, including passes for caretakers when necessary

Take advantage of transportation systems used by public assistance agencies

Reimburse parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth for gas

Use approved van or taxi services

Use local funds for transportation



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Title I Requirements

Homeless children are by definition automatically eligible for Title I services

Requires set aside reservation to be placed in Consolidated Application for categorical funding

This reservation requirement is not formula driven. The amount reserved is to be determined by the LEA, as appropriate

Requires a description of the Title I services to be placed in the Consolidated Application



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Title I Strategies

Establish a formula to allocate Title I set-asides for homeless children and youth

Use Title I funds (including set-aside funds) to support the LEA homeless liaison position and/or to meet basic needs of students experiencing homelessness (clothing, supplies, health)

Use Title I funds to provide tutoring and/or outreach services to children and youth living in shelters, transitional living programs, motels, and other temporary residences



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Title I Strategies

Continued...

Collect data on students experiencing homelessness as part of the overall district-wide data collection system

Pool Title I and McKinney-Vento funds to provide a comprehensive program for homeless students, ensuring that specific needs of children experiencing homelessness or high mobility are met

Ensure coordination between Title I and McKinney-Vento through state and local planning and activities



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Resources

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth www.naehcy.org

National Center for Homeless Education
www.serve.org/nche

National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty www.nlchp.org

CDE Homeless Education
www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs

National Network for Youth www.nn4youth.org



State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Contact Us

Leanne Wheeler, CDE

(916) 319-0383

lwheeler@cde.ca.gov

Karen Lints, CDE

(916) 319-0384

klints@cde.ca.gov