

## McKinney-Vento/Homeless Educational Services

### Definition of Terms

#### **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY)**

According to the McKinney-Vento Act, children and youth through age 17 who are living apart from their parents or guardians are considered Unaccompanied. The Act states, a child or youth “*not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.*” This means a child or youth has the right to immediate enrollment in school, without the consent of a parent or guardian.

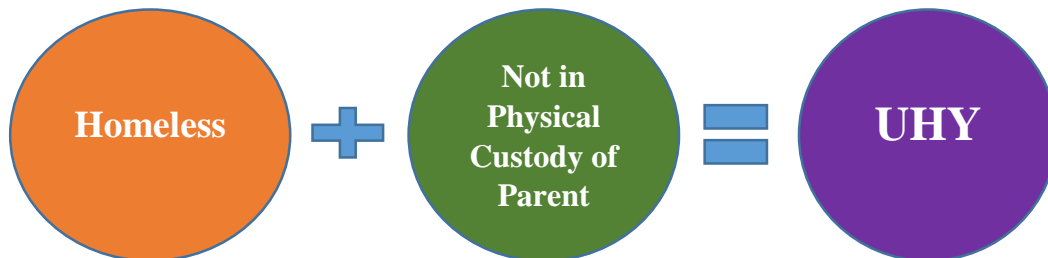
A student who is considered **homeless** (lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence) and **unaccompanied** (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) can be registered as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

A student who is not homeless, even though residing with a person other than the parent or court-appointed guardian, does not qualify as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

#### **Age Restrictions**

**Lower:** There is no lower age limit for unaccompanied homeless youth.

**Upper:** The upper age limit (as with all McKinney-Vento eligible students) is 21, but is sometimes older for special education students.



#### **Runaway Youth**

of age and who absents (*to take or keep (oneself) away*) himself or herself from home or a place of legal residence without the permission of a parent or legal guardian.

#### **Homeless Youth**

case of a youth seeking shelter, less than the age of 18.

A youth for whom it is not possible to live in a safe environment with a relative; and who has no other safe alternative living arrangement.



**AB 379- Foster Youth: Homeless Children or Youth: Complaint of Non Compliance: Exemption from Local Graduation Requirements**

1. Allows Youth to access the uniform complaint procedure to resolve alleged violations of educational rights.
2. Reduces timelines for LEAs to respond to complaints alleging a violation of the right to immediate enrollment. As well as the violation of the rights to remain in the school of origin pending resolution of a dispute.

**AB 652- Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act: Homeless children**

Clarifies that a child/youth is homeless or unaccompanied minor, is not sufficient for reporting child abuse or neglect, as defined by McKinney-Vento.

**AB 982- Childcare and Development: Eligibility: Priority: Homeless children.**

Prioritizes Homeless families for enrollment in subsidized childcare and expands the type of agencies that can verify that a family is Homeless for purposes of eligibility.

**AB 1068- Pupil Records**

Permits a student who is either Homeless or Unaccompanied minor 14 years or older to have access to his/her student records without parental consent. Extends rights to caregivers who enroll students in school using CA caregiver authorization affidavit.

It prevents schools from releasing directory information of students experiencing Homelessness, unless a parent expressly consents, including name, e-mail, and photographs.

**AB 1166- Pupils in Foster Care: pupils who are Homeless children or youth: School transfer: Exemption from Local Graduation requirements**

Allows Homeless students an exemption even if the district fails to provide timely notice of the availability of the exemption.

If a pupil is exempted from Local Graduation Requirements, the exemption continues to

youth and current and former Foster youth can access housing resources during and between academic terms, including during academic and campus breaks.

**AB 1733- Public Records: Fee Waiver**

Local registrars or county recorders are required to issue a birth certificate without a fee to any person, who can verify his or her status as a Homeless person or a Homeless child or youth, as defined.