



Homeless Education

Summer School Guidance

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires that local education agencies (LEAs) remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success for children and youth experiencing homelessness (HCY) ([42 U.S.C. §11431](#)). As summer learning opportunities may help compensate for critical instruction that may have been missed by HCY due to experiencing homelessness, removing barriers to the enrollment, attendance, and academic success in such opportunities for HCY is essential. To this end, LEAs are required to remove all barriers to HCY fully accessing and benefiting from summer curricula by providing them transportation.

Comparability Requirement

LEAs that provide transportation for housed students to attend summer school must ensure that the McKinney-Vento Act comparability requirement is satisfied. Thus, HCY are to be provided services comparable to the services offered to housed students enrolled in the LEA, including transportation. ([42 U.S.C. §11432\(g\)\(4\)\(A\)](#)).

Removal of Barriers Requirement

LEAs must ensure that HCY do not face barriers to accessing academic and extracurricular activities, including magnet school, summer school, career and technical education, advanced placement, online learning, and charter school programs, if such programs are available at the State and local levels ([42 U.S.C. § 11432\(g\)\(1\)\(F\)\(iii\)](#)).

If an LEA maintains a procedure that presents a barrier to a student experiencing homelessness attending a summer school program, the LEA is required to review and revise policies to remove that barrier ([42 U.S.C. §11432\(g\)\(1\)\(I\)](#)). Therefore, LEAs are required to provide transportation for HCY to attend summer school if lack of transportation poses a barrier to their participation, even if transportation is not provided to any student at the LEA.

Shared Transportation Requirement

If shared transportation is required for HCY to attend summer school, LEAs must share the cost of transportation equally. If a request to share transportation is received by another LEA, please coordinate with that LEA's McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison to determine how transportation will be provided ([42 U.S.C. §11432\(g\)\(1\)\(J\)\(iii\)](#)).

General Guidance

To ensure compliance, LEAs must review their existing policies and procedures for the following context regarding summer school:

1. What policies and procedures has your LEA established to ensure that eligible homeless children and youth can enroll and fully participate in summer school programs without barriers?

2. How is the McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison actively collaborating with district summer school personnel to determine which eligible homeless children and youth, based on academic need and data, will attend summer school?
3. How is your LEA notifying parents, guardians, caregivers, and youth about summer learning opportunities and services, including transportation?
4. How is your LEA addressing transportation barriers to ensure homeless children and youth can fully participate in summer school opportunities, even if your LEA is not providing transportation for other students?
5. What are the established procedures for planning and providing transportation, including shared transportation, with other districts?
6. How will your LEA ensure maintenance of data regarding HCY who attend summer school program(s)?

The Arizona Homeless Education Program Team is available to provide support as you develop, review, and revise your policies and procedures around the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of HCY, including the provision of transportation to HCY to fully participate in summer learning opportunities. Please refer to our additional sample documents related to summer school as you develop your summer school procedures.

Reach the Arizona Homeless Education Program at Homeless@azed.gov for additional support or guidance.