



McKinney-Vento District Plan 2018

Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

951 Walnut St., Evansville, IN 47713

812-435-8453

www.evscschools.com



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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW/GENERAL INFORMATION

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act:

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C 11431 et seq.). (McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act was originally authorized in 1987 and most recently re-authorized in December 10th, 2016 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The McKinney-Vento Act is designed to address the challenges that homeless children and youths have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, State Educational Agencies (SEAs) must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youths. Homeless children and youths must have access to the educational and related services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held. In addition, homeless students may not be separated from the mainstream school environment. SEAs and local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to review and undertake steps to revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youth.

Definition of Homeless (McKinney-Vento Act Sec. 725 (2); 42 U.S.C 11435 (2)):

Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Act defines “homeless children and youths” as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes children and youths who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as “doubled-up”)
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters, or abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings)
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

- Unaccompanied Youth- children or youth who meet the definition of homeless and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian (sometimes referred to as “couch surfing”)

The definition of homeless is an “individual lacking a fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence.”

Residency and Educational Rights

Students who are in temporary, inadequate and homeless situations have the following rights in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC):

- Immediate enrollment in the school they last attended or the school in whose attendance area they are currently staying even if they do not have all of the documents normally required at the time of enrollment
- Access to free meals and textbooks, Title I and other educational programs and other comparable services including transportation
- Attendance in the same classes and activities that students in other living situations also participate in without fear of being separated or treated differently due to their housing situations

Procedures for the Dissemination of Educational Rights

All schools within the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) shall ensure that public notice of the educational rights of students and families in homeless situations is disseminated where children and youth receive services under the McKinney-Vento Act. Posters in English and/or Spanish will be posted in all school buildings, local shelters, local hotels/motels, and local food banks.

SECTION 2: IDENTIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY

Title I Services and Funding:

In the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC), all children and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento services are automatically eligible for Title I, Part A services, whether or not they attend a Title I, Part A school or meet the academic standards required of other students for eligibility (Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Sec. 1115 (b)(2)(E); 20 U.S.C 6315(b)(2)(E)). This automatic eligibility acknowledges that the experience of homelessness puts children and youth at significant risk of academic failure, regardless of their previous academic standing. Additionally, all

EVSC children and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services who are doing well academically are entitled to receive additional non-instructional education related support services needed to succeed in school.

School Selection:

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) will keep students in homeless situations in their school of origin defined as the school attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled, unless it is against the parent or guardian's wishes or unless it is determined to be in the student's best educational interest. Students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services are eligible to remain in their school of origin for the duration in which they are homeless and until the end of any academic year in which they move into permanent housing. Students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services may also choose to enroll in any public school that students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend.

Procedures to Identify and Verify Eligibility of McKinney-Vento Students:

All Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required to identify students experiencing homelessness. To collect this information, school staff in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) will identify McKinney-Vento students through outreach and coordination with other entities and agencies. In addition, front line school staff (secretaries, counselors, social workers, enrollment personnel) will immediately notify the District McKinney-Vento Liaison when they suspect or confirm that a student may be living in a homeless situation. EVSC staff will exercise sensitivity when talking with students and parents, who often are afraid to identify themselves as homeless due to fears of stigma or negative repercussions. A Housing Questionnaire (Appendix A) will also be available for all new student enrollments. Follow-up contact to verify the information provided will be conducted by either the District or Building level McKinney-Vento Liaison.

SECTION 3: SERVICES AND STANDARDS

Transportation:

Each child or youth in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) facing a McKinney-Vento situation shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected including transportation services.

The EVSC will provide students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services with transportation to and from their school of origin, at a parent or guardian's request. For unaccompanied youth, the EVSC will provide transportation to and from the school of origin at the request of the District McKinney-Vento Liaison. If the student's temporary residence and the school of origin are in the same district, the EVSC will provide and/or arrange transportation to and from school. If the student is living outside of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, the EVSC, along with the school corporation of where the child is living will share the responsibility and cost of providing transportation to and from school.

Students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services are eligible to receive these transportation services for the entire duration in which they are homeless and/or until the end of the academic school year. Requests for transportation will be revisited the following school year and a determination will be made if a student is still eligible for McKinney-Vento Services.

**** "School of Origin" is defined as the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled. ****

Food Services:

Each child or youth in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) facing a McKinney-Vento situation shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected including school nutritional programs. Students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch as offered by each school for the entire duration in which they are homeless and/or until the end of the academic school year.

Textbooks and Technology:

Each child or youth in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) facing a McKinney-Vento situation shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected including access to instructional materials, assessments, and technology. Students and youth who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services are eligible to receive free textbooks and technology fees as offered by each school for the entire duration in which they are homeless and/or until the end of the academic school year.

Academic Services & Standards

Each child or youth in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) facing a McKinney-Vento situation shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected including educational services for which the child or youth meet eligibility criteria (Title I services, preschool, educational programs for children with disabilities or for students with limited

English proficiency), programs in vocational and technical education, and programs for gifted and talented students as available.

SECTION 4: ENROLLMENT

Enrollment Procedures:

Any child or youth who claims to be homeless will be immediately enrolled in a school in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation even if they do not have required documents such as:

- School records
- Medical records
- Proof of residency
- Guardianship papers

Enrolling schools must obtain school records from the previous school, and students must be enrolled in school while records are obtained.

The McKinney-Vento District Liaison will assist unaccompanied youth in choosing and enrolling in a school after considering the youth's wishes, informing the youth of their rights to transportation and assisting the youth in accessing transportation, and informing the youth of their right to appeal the school's or school district's decisions. The McKinney-Vento District Liaison must ensure that unaccompanied youth are immediately enrolled in school pending resolution of disputes that may arise over school enrollment or placement.

Unaccompanied youth have the right to:

- Remain in their school of origin
- Transportation to and from the school of origin
- Immediately enroll in a new school serving the area in which they are currently living even if they don't have typically required documents (e.g. proof of guardianship)
- Equal access to programs and services such as gifted and talented education, special education, vocational education, and English Language Learner services.

Schools in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation shall remove any/all barriers to the enrollment and retention of children and youth in homeless situations. Students in homeless situations shall be free from segregation, isolation, and stigmatization.

**** The term “enroll” is defined as attending classes and participating fully in school activities. ****

**** “School of Origin” is defined as the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled. ****

Appeal and Dispute Processes:

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school, the child or youth shall be immediately admitted to attend the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The child, youth, parent or guardian shall be referred to the McKinney-Vento District Team, who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible in accordance with the enrollment disputes section of the McKinney-Vento Act as follows:

- Work with the McKinney-Vento District and Building Level Liaisons to ensure that enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with the enrollment disputes section of the McKinney-Vento Act as follows:
 - I. The child or youth shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute;
 - II. The parent or guardian of the child or youth shall be provided with a written explanation of the school’s decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian or youth to appeal
 - III. The child, youth, parent or guardian shall be referred to the McKinney-Vento District Level Team, who shall carry out the Dispute Resolution process as expeditiously as possible after receiving notice of the dispute; and
 - IV. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the McKinney-Vento Liaison shall ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in school pending resolution of the dispute.

**** The McKinney-Vento District Level Team consists of the McKinney-Vento Liaison, Building Level Liaisons, Director of Student Support Services and the Chief Officer for the Center for Family, School & Community Partnerships. ****

If a dispute arises over qualification for McKinney-Vento services, the child or youth shall receive all McKinney-Vento rights and services provided by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation pending resolution of dispute. The child, youth, parent or guardian shall be referred to the McKinney-Vento District Team, who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act as follows:

- Work with the McKinney-Vento District and Building Level Liaisons to ensure that enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with the enrollment disputes section of the McKinney-Vento Act as follows:
 - V. The child or youth shall receive all McKinney-Vento rights and services, pending resolution of the dispute;
 - VI. The parent or guardian of the child or youth shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian or youth to appeal (Appendix B)
 - VII. The child, youth, parent or guardian shall be referred to the McKinney-Vento District Level Team, who shall carry out the Dispute Resolution process as expeditiously as possible after receiving notice of the dispute; and
 - VIII. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the McKinney-Vento Liaison shall ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in school pending resolution of the dispute.

SECTION 5: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

McKinney-Vento Professional Development Opportunities:

Professional development for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act will be provided to all staff members of schools in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation via the following ways:

- EVSC Connect
- Quarterly updates to McKinney-Vento District and Building Level Teams
- 1 Professional Development meeting per semester

District Website:

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) Website will include a page that will be used to communicate McKinney-Vento information with students, parents, staff, and community members.

Information on the EVSC's Website will include:

- Contact information for the McKinney-Vento District Liaison
- Contact information for the McKinney-Vento Building Level Liaisons
- Notice of Rights for McKinney-Vento Families
- Link to McKinney-Vento Resources

SECTION 6: EDUCATIONAL STAFFING AND SUPPORT

McKinney-Vento District Liaison's Roles and Responsibilities:

The District McKinney-Vento Liaison for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation will:

- Ensure that procedures are established and followed across the school corporation and provide each child or youth who qualifies for McKinney-Vento Services with a free and appropriate education.
- Work collaboratively with the Office of Transportation and Food & Nutrition personnel to coordinate appropriate services for any child or youth who qualifies for McKinney-Vento Services.
- Disseminate critical information concerning the rights of students in homeless situations to all schools.
- Post information regarding that availability of school programs and services for student facing homeless situations in local shelters, local hotels, the local post office building, Evansville city hall, local library, and local food banks.
- Maintain a McKinney-Vento District spreadsheet to document the McKinney-Vento process for each child and youth who qualifies for McKinney-Vento services.
- Plan and facilitate professional development regarding the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to all staff responsible for identifying and working with students facing homeless situations.
- Work with building level staff and administration to facilitate success of the McKinney-Vento program and each student facing a homeless situation.
- Meet with community agencies and volunteers to share resources and information and to evaluate impact of services.
- Monitor all district data collection and reporting requirements on each child and youth who qualifies for McKinney-Vento Services.
- Attend state level professional development opportunities.

McKinney-Vento District Liaison:

- Name: Alma Dabrowski
- Email: alma.dabrowski@evsck12.com
- Phone: 812-435-8275

McKinney-Vento Building Level Liaison's Roles and Responsibilities:

Each school in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation will identify one staff member (counselor, social worker, administrator, etc.) who will serve as a representative on the McKinney-Vento District Level Team and will:

- Identify students that may be facing homeless situations
- Monitor school attendance
- Facilitate training at the building level
- Ensure that building level procedures are established and followed to provide each child and youth who qualifies for McKinney-Vento services with a free and appropriate education.
- Post public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations at the school.
- Make sure parents feel welcome and set the tone for further parental involvement.
- Establish a trusting relationship with students and parents.

Building Level McKinney-Vento Liaisons for each school are as follows:

School Name & Address	Building Liaison Name	Email	Phone #
Caze Elementary School 2013 S Green River Rd. Evansville, IN 47715	Tomoko Lahee, Counselor	Tomoko.lahee@evsck12.com	812-477-5567
Cedar Hall Community School 2100 N Fulton Ave. Evansville, IN 47710	Rebecca DeBaillie, Counselor	Rebecca.debaillie@evsck12.com	812-435-8223
Culver Family Learning Ctr 1301 Judson St. Evansville, IN 47713	Natalye Booth, Secretary	Natalye.booth@evsck12.com	812-435-0944
Cynthia Heights Elementary 7225 Big Cynthiana Rd. Evansville, IN 47720	Brandi Cloud, Counselor	brandi.cloud@evsck12.com	812-435-8740
Daniel Wertz Elementary 1701 S. Red Bank Rd. Evansville, IN 47712	Kristine Lewis, Counselor	Kristine.lewis@evsck12.com	812-435-8312
Delaware Elementary 700 N. Garvin St. Evansville, IN 47711	Jennifer Hamilton, Counselor	Jennifer.hamilton@evsck12.com	812-435-8227
Dexter Elementary 917 S. Dexter Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	Elizabeth Samelak, Counselor	Elizabeth.samelak@evsck12.com	812-476-1321
Evans Elementary 2727 N. Evans Ave. Evansville, IN 47711	Drew Mitchell, Counselor	Drew.mitchell@evsck12.com	812-435-8330
Fairlawn Elementary 2021 S. Alvord Blvd. Evansville, IN 47714	Acacia Peak, Counselor	Acacia.peak@evsck12.com	812-476-4997
Glenwood Leadership Academy 901 Sweetser Ave. Evansville, IN 47713	Brian Gmutza, Counselor	Brian.gmutza@evsck12.com	812-435-8242
Harper Elementary 21 S Alvord Blvd. Evansville, IN 47714	Dana Higgins, Counselor	Dana.higgins@evsck12.com	812-476-1308

Hebron Elementary 4400 Bellemeade Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	Jenni Herrell, Counselor	Jenni.herrell@evsck12.com	812-477-8915
Highland Elementary School 6701 Darmstadt Rd. Evansville, IN 47710	Jaime Meyerholtz, Counselor	Jaime.meyerholtz@evsck12.com	812-867-6401
Lincoln Elementary 635 Lincoln Ave. Evansville, IN 47713	Lana Dougherty, Counselor	Lana.dougherty@evsck12.com	812-435-8235
Lodge Community School 2000 Lodge Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	Karen Santana, Counselor	Karen.santana@evsck12.com	812-435-5319
McCutchanville Elementary 10701 Petersburg Rd. Evansville, IN 47725	Rachel Bauer, Counselor	Rachel.bauer@evsck12.com	812-435-8453
Oak Hill Elementary 7700 Oak Hill Rd. Evansville, IN 47725	Beckey Holder, Counselor	Beckey.holder@evsck12.com	812-867-6426
Scott Elementary 14940 Old State Rd. Evansville, IN 47725	Dana Lobel, Counselor	Dana.lobel@evsck12.com	812-867-2427
Stockwell Elementary 2501 N. Stockwell Rd. Evansville, IN 47715	Tom Higgs, Counselor	Thomas.higgs@evsck12.com	812-477-5345
Stringtown Elementary 4720 Stringtown Rd. Evansville, IN 47711	Elizabeth Rohl, Counselor	Elizabeth.rohl@evsck12.com	812-435-8320
Tekoppel Elementary 111 N. Tekoppel Ave. Evansville, IN 47712	Erika Nix, Counselor	Erika.nix@evsck12.com	812-435-8333
Vogel Elementary 1500 Oak Hill Rd. Evansville, IN 47711	Stephanie Smith, Counselor	Stephanie.smith@evsck12.com	812-477-6109
West Terrace Elementary 8000 West Terrace Dr. Evansville, IN 47712	Katie White, Principal	Katie.white@evsck12.com	812-435-8733
Helfrich Park Stem Academy 2603 W. Maryland St. Evansville, IN 47712	Shelley Ryan, Counselor	Shelley.ryan@evsck12.com	812-435-8246
McGary Middle School 1535 S. Joyce Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	Mark Simon, Counselor	Mark.simon@evsck12.com	812-476-3035
North Jr. High 15325 Highway 41 N. Evansville, IN 47725	Sue Schreiber, Counselor	Sue.schreiber@evsck12.com	812-435-0975
Perry Heights Middle 5800 Hogue Rd. Evansville, IN 47712	Shari Chestnut, Counselor	Shari.chestnut@evsck12.com	812-435-8326
Plaza Park Intl Prep Academy 7301 Lincoln Ave. Evansville, IN 47715	Ryan Connors, Counselor	Ryan.connors@evsck12.com	812-476-4971
Thompkins Middle 1300 W. Mill Rd. Evansville, IN 47710	Melinda Walker, Counselor	Melinda.walker@evsck12.com	812-435-8323
Washington Middle 1801 Washington Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	April Coughlin, Counselor	April.coughlin@evsck12.com	812-477-8983
Academy for Innovative Studies Diamond Campus 2319 Stringtown Rd.	Deborah Brown, Counselor	Deborah.brown@evsck12.com	812-435-0979

Evansville, IN 47711 Academy for Innovative Studies First Ave Campus 3013 First Ave. Evansville, IN 47710	Angie South, Counselor	Angela.south@evsck12.com	812-435-8316
Bosse High School 1300 Washington Ave. Evansville, IN 47714	Kathy Heidorn, Counselor	Kathy.heidorn@evsck12.com	812-477-1661
Central High School 5400 First Ave. Evansville, IN 47710	Kelsey Nebelecky, Counselor	Kelsey.nebelecky@evsck12.com	812-435-8292
Harrison High School 211 Fielding Rd. Evansville, IN 47715	Ryan Preci, Counselor	Ryan.preci@evsck12.com	812-477-1046
New Tech Institute 1901 Lynch rd. Evansville, IN 47711	Ann Gomoll-Doan, Counselor	Ann.gomoll@evsck12.com	812-435-0967
North High School 15331 Hwy 41 N Evansville, IN 47725	Robin Woebkenberg, Counselor	Robin.woebkenberg@evsck12.com	812-435-8283
F.J. Reitz High School 350 Dreier Blvd. Evansville, IN 47712	Kari Stein, Counselor	Kari.stein@evsck12.com	812-435-8206



Housing Questionnaire

If you own or rent your home, do not complete this form.

The answers to the following questions can help determine the services your child may be eligible to receive under the McKinney-Vento Act 42 U.S.C. 11435. The McKinney-Vento Act provides services and supports for children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Name of School: _____

Name of Student: _____
Last First M.I

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Other siblings: _____

Name	School
Name	School
Name	School
Name	School

Where is the student currently living? (Please check one box.)

- In a shelter
- With another family or other person because of loss of housing or as a result of economic hardship
- In a hotel/motel
- In a car, park, bus, train, or campsite
- Other temporary living situation (Please describe): _____
- Moving from place to place/couch surfing

Print name of Parent, Guardian or Student (for unaccompanied youth): _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Student (for unaccompanied youth): _____

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Dear Parent:

Be advised that you have the right to appeal the decisions made by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation regarding your student's eligibility and enrollment under Title X, Part C of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Students involved in a McKinney-Vento dispute process have the right to enroll immediately in the school of choice pending resolution of the dispute. Immediate enrollment includes full participation in all school activities.

As the district's McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Liaison designee, notification should be made to Alma Dabrowski in writing within 10 business days of receipt of this letter if you want to appeal the district's decision outlined above.

Attached you will find an appeal form that you can use for this notification. If we cannot reach a resolution at the district-level, the dispute will be moved to the state level for final resolution, facilitated by the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE) State Coordinator for the McKinney-Vento Act. State Coordinator, Deepali Jani can be reached by phone at (317) 233-3372 or (317) 460-1340 or via email at: djani@doe.in.gov.

Attached you will find a copy of Indiana's McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process that provides additional details on the state's McKinney-Vento dispute and appeals process, including key timelines.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions on this decision or the McKinney-Vento dispute or appeal process.

Attachments: <http://www.doe.in.gov/student-services/dispute-resolution>

Sincerely,

Alma Dabrowski, MSW, LSW
EVSC Homeless Liaison
(812) 435-8275
Alma.dabrowski@evsck12.com