



Immunization Requirements for Children/Youth in Transition/Foster Care

ASSEMBLY BILL 490/ASSEMBLY BILL 1933/SENATE BILL 1568

Effective January 1, 2004, Assembly Bill (AB) 490, Chapter 862, imposed new duties and rights related to the education of children and youth in foster care (dependents and wards of the court). Assembly Bill 1933 ("AB 1933"), effective January 1, 2011, allows a foster child to remain in his/her school of origin for as long as the child is in foster care. Education Code (EC) § 48850(a). Effective January 1, 2013, Senate Bill 1568, allows a former foster child to continue in his/her School of Origin through graduation if the jurisdiction of the court is terminated while the foster child is in high school. Education Code (EC) § 48853.5.

All educational and school placement decisions for foster youth shall be made to ensure that each foster pupil has the opportunity to meet the same academic achievement standards to which all pupils are held, is placed in the least restrictive educational programs, and has access to the academic resources, services, extracurricular and enrichment activities as all other pupils.

Education Code (EC) § 48850(a)

The new school shall immediately enroll the foster or transitional child even if the foster or transitional child has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or moneys due to the school last attended or is unable to produce records or clothing normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, proof of residency, other documentation, or school uniforms. Education Code (EC) § 48850(b)

WHO Any student enrolled in SFUSD schools who is considered to be in transition (homeless) or in foster care placement, including children living in emergency or transitional shelters or awaiting foster care placement.

WHAT **Schools shall immediately enroll the homeless/foster child/youth, even if the child/youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, immunization records, proof of residency, or other documentation.** [McKinney-Vento Act-SEC.722(g)(3)(C)(i)] , [AB 490/AB1933/SB1568], [EC 48853.5]

HOW If the child/youth needs to obtain immunizations or medical records, the enrolling school shall immediately refer the parent/guardian of the child/youth to the district's Families and Youth in Transition Liaison or Foster Youth Services Coordinator. [McKinney-Vento Act-SEC.722(g)(3)(C)(iii)] (see contacts below)

The parent/guardian may have 7-14 days within which to bring the records directly to the school. This does not apply to children/youth in foster care (refer to Foster Youth Services Coordinator).

If a dispute arises over school enrollment, the child/youth shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute.

[McKinney-Vento Act-SEC.722(g)(3)(C)(iii)] , [AB 490/AB1933/SB1568], [EC 48853.5(d)(4)(B)]

WHY The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and AB490 ensure educational rights and protections for homeless and foster children/youth.

RESOURCES

National Organizations:

National Law Center for Homelessness and Poverty www.nlchp.org
National Association of the Education of Homeless Children and Youth www.naehcy.org
National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) www.serve.org/nche

For more information, contact:

Shira Andron, Foster Youth Services Coordinator androns@sfusd.edu
SFUSD Student and Family Resource Link - familylink@sfusd.edu or call 415-340-1716 *

