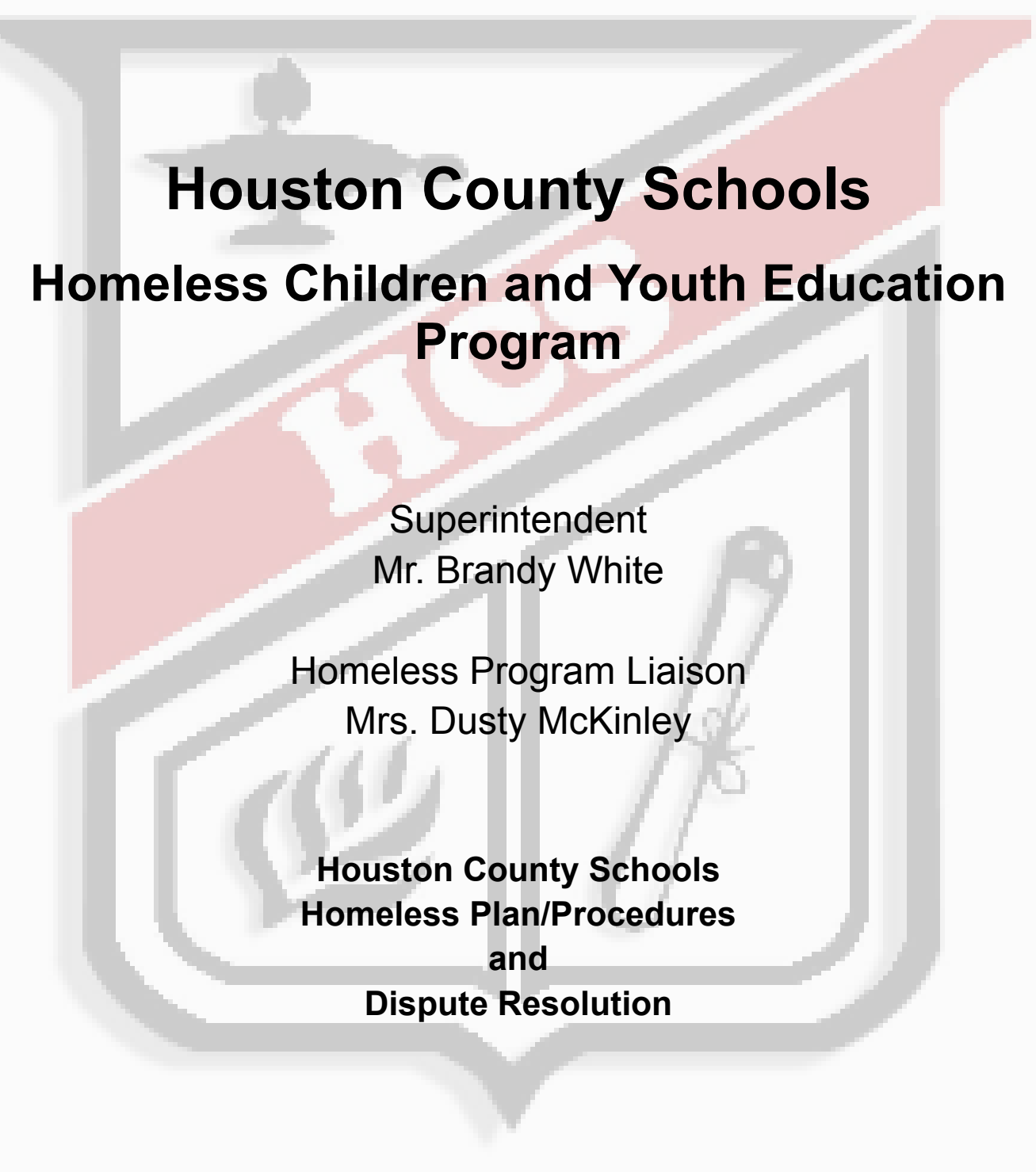




Houston County Schools

Homeless Children and Youth Education Program

Superintendent
Mr. Brandy White

Homeless Program Liaison
Mrs. Dusty McKinley

**Houston County Schools
Homeless Plan/Procedures
and
Dispute Resolution**

Approved by: Superintendent

Date

NOTE: True Signatures are on file in the Houston County Federal Programs Department for the cover page.

HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

ADMISSION POLICY FOR HOMELESS, MIGRANTS, AND ELL STUDENTS

Pursuant to the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, Plyler vs. Doe, 457 U.S. 202, (1982), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, all homeless children, immigrants, foster care, and English language learners must have equal access to the same free appropriate public education, including public preschool education, provided other children and youth. This shall be the policy of the Houston County School System. Such children will be provided the opportunity to meet the same challenging state content and state student performance standards to which all students are held without being stigmatized or isolated.

The enrollment of homeless, migrant, and limited English proficient children and youth shall not be denied or delayed due to any of the following barriers:

- Lack of birth certificate
- Lack of school records or transcripts
- Lack of immunization or health records
- Lack of proof of residency
- Lack of transportation
- Unaccompanied; no guardian

*State approved policy for homeless children attached.

HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

HOMELESS PLAN/PROCEDURES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

INTRODUCTION:

The Houston County School System will employ practices that increase the awareness of the Homeless Education program. The school/district shall notify parents/guardians of homeless children and youth of available resources and assist them in accessing the resources.

The Houston County School System shall conduct an annual evaluation (**Appendix F**) of its Homeless Education program to determine the effectiveness of the program. The system will adjust practices and procedures as needed to improve the effectiveness of implementation and student achievement.

DEFINITION:

For the purpose of identifying homeless children and youth, the Houston County School System shall use the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless children and youth. The Act defines **homeless children and youth** (twenty-one years of age and younger) as:

- Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and includes children and youth who are:
 - sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or 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;
 - abandoned in hospitals; or
 - awaiting foster care placement.
- Children and youth 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.
- Children and youth who are 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.

The term **unaccompanied youth** includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. This includes youth living in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, cars, on the streets, or in other inadequate housing and children, youth denied housing by their families (sometimes referred to as "throwaway" children and youth), and school-age unwed mothers, living in homes for unwed mothers, who have no other housing available.

The **school of origin** is the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled.

HOMELESS EDUCATION PLAN

Purpose of the Program

Homeless children and youth will be provided the opportunity to receive a free and appropriate public education regardless of their residency status. The program will ensure that these students are afforded equal access to academic and other services that will allow them to meet the same challenging state achievement standards as non-homeless students.

The program provides procedural guidelines **to ensure that homeless students are not denied enrollment due to the lack of registration documentation at the time of enrollment. Homeless children and youth, including preschool age children, will be enrolled immediately pending obtaining of the necessary documents.** The school counselor will assist parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth in obtaining the proper documentation.

The homes education program makes every effort to provide homeless children and youth with a stable school environment by enrolling students in the *school of origin* and providing them with transportation to and from the school of origin. Provisions are made for parents/guardians, or unaccompanied youth to request or decline enrollment in the *school of origin*.

The program provides for a homeless liaison that will ensure program implementation and coordinate efforts to ensure that homeless children and youth, including preschool age children, are provided the opportunity for academic success.

Identification & Registration Procedures

Homeless children and youth are often undetected. The district will conduct awareness training sessions with the appropriate school personnel to inform them of methods of identifying homeless children without using stigmatizing terminology. The district will use a *Residency Questionnaire (Appendix A)* to facilitate identity of homeless children and youth and preschoolers. The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth will complete the *Residency Questionnaire* at the time of registration. The school counselor may provide appropriate assistance to the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth in answering the questionnaire if necessary.

A copy of the *Residency Questionnaire* must be submitted to the Houston County Schools Homeless Liaison on the day of registration for students identified as homeless. The school will maintain the original form in a file separate from the student's permanent record for audit purposes during the year. This file should be housed in the school counselor's office. Currently enrolled students who may become homeless may be identified through school personnel observation as well as through referrals from outside sources.

The parent or guardian may enroll a homeless child or youth with or without proof of residency, birth certificate, social security number, immunization record, or school records (**Appendix H**). The school counselor or principal's designee will provide the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth appropriate assistance in obtaining the necessary records and documents for enrollment. Enrollment without the required immunization record will be pending receipt or acquisition of immunization documentation. The existing method of assigning a student number will be employed when a student enrolls without a social security number.

An unaccompanied youth may enroll himself or herself. In this case, the school principal or designee will immediately contact the Houston County Schools Homeless Liaison to report the enrollment of an unaccompanied youth. The school will provide the youth with proper assistance in language that the student understands. The Houston County Schools Homeless Liaison (**Appendix B**) and school personnel will assist the homeless unaccompanied youth in obtaining eligible educational services.

A Confidential Referral Form (**Appendix C**) will be available in the counselors and administrators' office for anyone to complete when there are areas of concern centered around homeless children and youth. The Confidential Referral Form will identify needs and services needed.

Meal Status

The application process for free and reduced priced meals can be expedited for homeless children and youth. The determination for free meals may be made without completing the full application process (source: U.S. Department of Agriculture: http://www.nlchp.org/FA_Education/new_usda_memo.pdf). During the 2026-2027 school year, Houston County Schools, except Houston County Virtual Academy, will be under the CEP (Community Provisions Provision) program. This means that all schools under the CEP program will serve breakfast and lunch to all students free of charge.

Identification of Homeless Preschoolers

The Houston County Schools Homeless Liaison will collaborate with local community service agencies (e.g. Head Start, Department of Human Resources, Health Department, faith-based organizations and the court system, etc.) and school personnel to identify homeless preschoolers. The district will also include homeless preschoolers and homeless children in the "Child Find" process as required by the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (**Appendix I**) is posted at all schools, the central office, and other appropriate sites.

School Placement

The school system will make school placement decisions in the "best interest" of the homeless child or youth. Students will be given the opportunity to continue in the *school of origin* for the duration of homelessness when a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; or for the remainder of the academic year if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year. Students may enroll in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the student is actually living are eligible to attend.

Homeless Program Dispute Resolution Policy and Process

Dispute Resolution

A parent/guardian of a homeless student has the right to enroll his/her student in either the "school of origin," which may be the last school attended by the student when permanently housed (if in the best interest of the homeless student) or the school which serves the location where the student currently resides. The school must provide the parent/guardian, or unaccompanied student, written information regarding enrollment options or school selection available to homeless students under the McKinney-Vento Act (**APPENDIX G**).

If a school selection or enrollment dispute develops over the selection or enrollment options available pursuant to the McKinney-Vento Act, the school must immediately enroll the homeless student to the school in which enrollment is sought by the parent/ guardian, pending resolution of the dispute. In the case of an unaccompanied student, the district homeless coordinator will ensure that the student is immediately enrolled in the school pending resolution of the dispute.

In order to initiate the dispute resolution process, the Houston County Schools Dispute Resolution Form (**Appendix D**) must be completed and filed with the principal of the school wherein the student is currently enrolled.

After receipt of the Dispute Resolution Form, the school principal shall meet with the parent/guardian or unaccompanied student in an effort to resolve the school selection or enrollment dispute. If a school selection or enrollment resolution is not reached at the school level, the school principal will notify the Houston County Schools homeless coordinator of the dispute, and refer the parent/guardian or unaccompanied student to the district homeless coordinator.

The district's homeless coordinator shall meet with the parent/guardian or unaccompanied student in an effort to resolve the school selection or enrollment dispute. Within ten (10) business days of the meeting, the district's homeless coordinator shall provide the parent/ guardian or unaccompanied student a written decision (**Appendix E**) regarding the school selection or enrollment decision.

If the parent/guardian or unaccompanied student is not satisfied with the decision the parent/guardian or unaccompanied student has the right to file a written complaint with the Alabama State Department of Education. The LEA Homeless Coordinator will assist with this process if requested to do so.

The written complaint can be mailed or delivered to:

Alabama Department of Education
Federal Programs Section
50 North Ripley Street
5348 Gordon Persons Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36104-2101
Attn: Homeless Program Specialist



Houston County Schools Residency Questionnaire Form

Date: _____ LEA: Houston County School Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Current Grade: _____ Last School Attended: _____

Parent /Guardian /Adult Caring for Student: _____ Relationship: _____

Disclaimer: This questionnaire is intended to address the McKinney-Vento Act. Your child may be eligible for additional educational services through Title I Part A, Title I Part C Migrant, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and/or Title IX Part A, Federal McKinney-Vento Assistance Act, 42U.S.C.11435. Eligibility can be determined by completing this questionnaire. It is illegal to knowingly make false statements on this form. If eligible, students are to be immediately enrolled in accordance with Bulletin 741, section 341.

1. Did the student receive McKinney-Vento (Homeless) Services in a previous school district? YES NO
2. Is the student's address a temporary living arrangement? YES NO

NOTE: If your answer is No, you have a permanent living arrangement or the family owns or rents their home, skip to #10 and submit the form to school personnel. If Yes, please move to question #3.

3. Is the temporary living arrangement due to loss of housing or economic hardship? YES NO
4. Does the student have a disability or receive any special education-related services? YES NO
5. Where is the student currently living? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ In an emergency/transitional shelter
☐ Temporarily with another family because we cannot afford or find affordable housing
☐ With an adult that is not a parent or legal guardian, or alone without an adult
☐ In a vehicle of any kind, trailer park or campground without running water/electricity, abandoned building or substandard housing
☐ Emergency Housing (i.e. FEMA Trailer or FEMA Rental Assistance)
☐ In a hotel/motel ☐ Other Specific Information _____

6. Does the student exhibit any behaviors that may interfere with his or her academic performance? YES NO

7. Do you need assistance with school records, school supplies, etc.? _____

8. Have you moved at any time during the past three (3) years to seek temporary or seasonal work in agriculture (including Poultry processing, dairy, nursery, and timber) or fishing? YES NO

9. Does the student have any siblings (brothers or sisters)? Note: Use the back of the page if needed. YES NO

Name _____ School _____ Grade _____ DOB _____

Name _____ School _____ Grade _____ DOB _____

Name _____ School _____ Grade _____ DOB _____

10. The undersigned certifies that the information provided above is accurate.

Print Parent/Guardian/adult caring for above student_____
Signature_____
Date_____
(Area Code) Phone Number_____
Street Address_____
City_____
State_____
Zip Code_____
Print School Contact Name_____
Title_____
Signature_____
Date

This form should be completed by the school appointed liaison

Reporting School: _____ Date Completed: _____

Student(s) Name: _____

1. Presently, where do you and/or your family sleep at night?

_____ With another family in their home, apartment, etc., due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reasons; Doubled-Up

_____ Other arrangements that are not fixed, regular, and/or adequate.

Use the Guiding Questions below to determine if the situation qualifies as homeless.

Guiding Questions:

Fixed: Stationary, permanent, and not subject to change:

- Is this a permanent arrangement or just temporary? _____ Permanent _____ Temporary
- Are you looking for another place to live? _____ Yes _____ No
- Do you plan to move out soon? _____ Yes _____ No
- Where were you living right before this place? Why did you leave? _____
- Where would you go if you couldn't stay where you are? _____
- Are you staying with friends/relatives for a while? _____ Yes _____ No
- Did you or your friends/relatives decide to move in together and share a home and expenses for the long term? Or is it a temporary situation for you? _____
- Could your friends/relatives ask you to leave if they wanted to? _____ Yes _____ No
- Are you all sharing the home equally, or are you more like guests in the house? _____

Regular: Used on a regular/nightly basis:

- Do you stay in the same place every night? _____ Yes _____ No
- Do you have a key to the place where you are living? _____ Yes _____ No
- Do you move around a lot? _____ Yes _____ No
- How long have you been at that place? How long do you plan to stay? _____
- How long did you live in your last place? _____

Adequate: Sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in the home environment:

- How many people are living in the home? How many bedrooms/bathrooms does it have?
_____ People _____ Bedrooms _____ Bathrooms
- Are you and your children sharing a room? _____ Yes _____ No How many people are staying in one room? _____
- Are you and your children sleeping in a bedroom, or a public area, like a dining room? _____
- Does the home/building have heat/electricity/running water? _____
- What is the condition of the place? Does it keep out rain and wind? Is it safe? Is it warm and dry?

- Do the windows have glass panes? _____ Yes _____ No
- Can you come and go as you please? _____ Yes _____ No

2. Student Lives with at least one (1) parent or legal guardian: _____ Yes _____ No

If **NO**, the student is unaccompanied youth and student lives:

_____ Alone or with friends and no relatives; **OR**

_____ With an adult friend or relative that is not the parent or legal guardian.

_____ YES – Student/family has been determined homeless
_____ NO – Student/family does NOT meet the definition of homeless

Please note: A student can be unaccompanied youth and not homeless. Please submit for further review.

Print School Liaison's Name

Signature

Date



HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

HOMELESS LIAISON RESPONSIBILITIES

The homeless liaison shall work to ensure that homeless children and youth, including preschoolers are identified, enrolled in school, and receive all eligible services to facilitate student academic success. The responsibilities listed below are not all inclusive but shall be primary duties of the liaison. The homeless liaison shall ensure that:

- Homeless children and youth are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
- Homeless students enroll in, and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in, the schools of the district;
- Homeless children and youth receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start, and preschool programs administered by the school system, and referrals to health, mental health, dental and other appropriate services;
- Parents or guardians of homeless children and youth are informed of educational and related opportunities available to their children, and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
- Parents and guardians and unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to and from the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation services;
- Transportation cost disputes between the school system and school system of enrollment are resolved;
- Sensitivity and confidentiality training is provided to transportation and school personnel regarding the needs of homeless children and youth;
- Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with the requirements of the McKinney – Vento Act;
- Public notice of the educational rights of homeless students is disseminated to locations where children and youth receive services under the Act;
- Required reports concerning the homeless education program are submitted to appropriate agencies and the State Department of Education; and
- Evaluation of the homeless education program is conducted annually and necessary program and implementation adjustments are made in a timely manner.



Confidential Referral Form

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

LEA: Houston County School Year: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: _____ School: _____ Grade _____

Gender: Male Female Race: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ IEP: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone Number: _____

Temporary Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Referring Person: _____ Position: _____

Reason for Referral: Problems listed below often prevent homeless children and youths from attending school. Please check all areas of concern which apply to the student identified above. We will try to assist with finding resources and community assistance when it is possible.

- School of Origin: Yes No
- Student Lacks a permanent residence
- Student is unable to pay school fees
- Immunizations are needed
- Birth certificate is needed
- Excessive absences are a problem
- Lacks academic records and/or documentation
- Academic problems indicate a need for tutoring
- School supplies are needed
- Transportation to school is a problem
- Student/family needs assistance accessing community resources
 - o Behavior indicates a need for mental health counseling
- School clothes are needed
 - o Sizes: Shirt Pants Shoes Other
- Free lunch form needed
- Health problems are indicated
- Need Health Insurance (ALL Kids)
- Guardianship is a problem
- IDEA (gifted, talented, disabilities) services needed
- LEP/EL services needed
- Migrant services needed
- Need SNAP benefits (food stamps)
- Early childhood services or Higher Ed services

Circle all that apply:

- (1) Sheltered
- (2) Doubled-Up
- (3)

Unsheltered/FEMA/Substandard

- (4) Hotel/Motel

Unaccompanied Youth: Yes No

- 01 – Mortgage Foreclosure
- 02 – Flooding
- 03 – Hurricane
- 04 – Tropical Storm
- 05 – Tornado
- 06 – Wildfire or Fire
- 07 – Man-made Disaster (major)
- 08 – Eviction
- 09 – Unemployment/Loss of Job
- 10 – Domestic Violence
- 11 – Illness
- 12 – Financial Hardships
- 13 – Lack of Affordable Housing
- 14 – Unaccompanied Youth

- 15 – Incarceration of

Parent/Guardian

- 16 – Unsafe Living Conditions

COMMENTS: _____

Other Children in the Home: _____

School Personnel Signature _____

Date _____

School Homeless Liaison Signature _____

Date _____

****LIAISON'S SIGNATURE INDICATES STUDENT(S) MEETS TITLE IX, PART A REQUIREMENTS****

_____ Copy Sent to District Homeless Liaison

_____ Copy Placed in the Student's Cumulative Record



HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT DISPUTE FORM

School Name _____

School Address _____

School Telephone Number _____

School Fax Number _____

Student's Name _____ SSN/SN _____ Grade _____

Current Address _____

E-911 Address (Street Address) _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Current Telephone Number _____

Complainant Information

Name _____ Relationship to the Student _____
Please Print

Current Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Note: Student information regarding address, telephone number, information protected by Everyday School Records Act can be released only to parent, guardian, the student, or a person specifically designated as a representative of the parent or guardian.

Name of school that complainant chooses student to be immediately enrolled in and/or transported to/from until dispute is resolved: _____

Is this the *school of origin*? _____

If no, from which school was the student transferred? _____

Reason for the complaint _____

Complainant Signature _____

Date _____

School Use Only

Principal's Action on the Complaint

Taken within _____ school day(s) after receiving notice of the complaint.

Date central office contact person was notified of the dispute: _____

Action taken by the principal to resolve the dispute: _____

Was the dispute resolved? _____

Email this form to the central office contact person on the day of the complaint



HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS DISTRICT ENROLLMENT DISPUTE FORM

Student's Name _____ SSN/SN _____

School Name _____ Grade _____

District Action on Complaint

Taken within _____ school days after receiving notice of the complaint. Was the complaint resolved at the district level? _____yes _____no

If the dispute was resolved at the district level, describe the action taken by the county homeless liaison to resolve the dispute to the satisfaction of the complainant:

If the dispute was not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, did the county homeless liaison convene a meeting of the interested parties to attempt resolution of the dispute? _____yes _____no

If yes, when and where did the meeting take place? Describe the outcome of the meeting.

If no, will a meeting be held for resolution purposes? When? Where?

If a resolution cannot be derived at the district level, the county homeless liaison should assist the complainant in contacting service organizations to provide technical assistance to the complainant. Did the county homeless liaison assist the complainant in this manner? _____yes _____no

Name of service organization contacted for assistance _____

Was the dispute resolved? _____

Date _____

Describe the resolution.

Complainant Signature

Homeless Liaison



HOUSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

School / System

Date

1. How many homeless children and youth were enrolled during this school year? _____
2. Were there any barriers to enrollment? _____yes _____no
If yes, please explain:

3. Were there any issues involving providing educational services for eligible students? _____yes
_____no
If yes, please explain:

4. Were there any disputes concerning school placement? _____yes _____no
If yes, were they resolved? _____yes _____no
5. Please make suggestions on how to improve the efficiency / effectiveness of program implementation and increase student achievement:

Evaluator's Signature

Position



Enrollment Options and School Selection

McKinney-Vento Act Enrollment Options

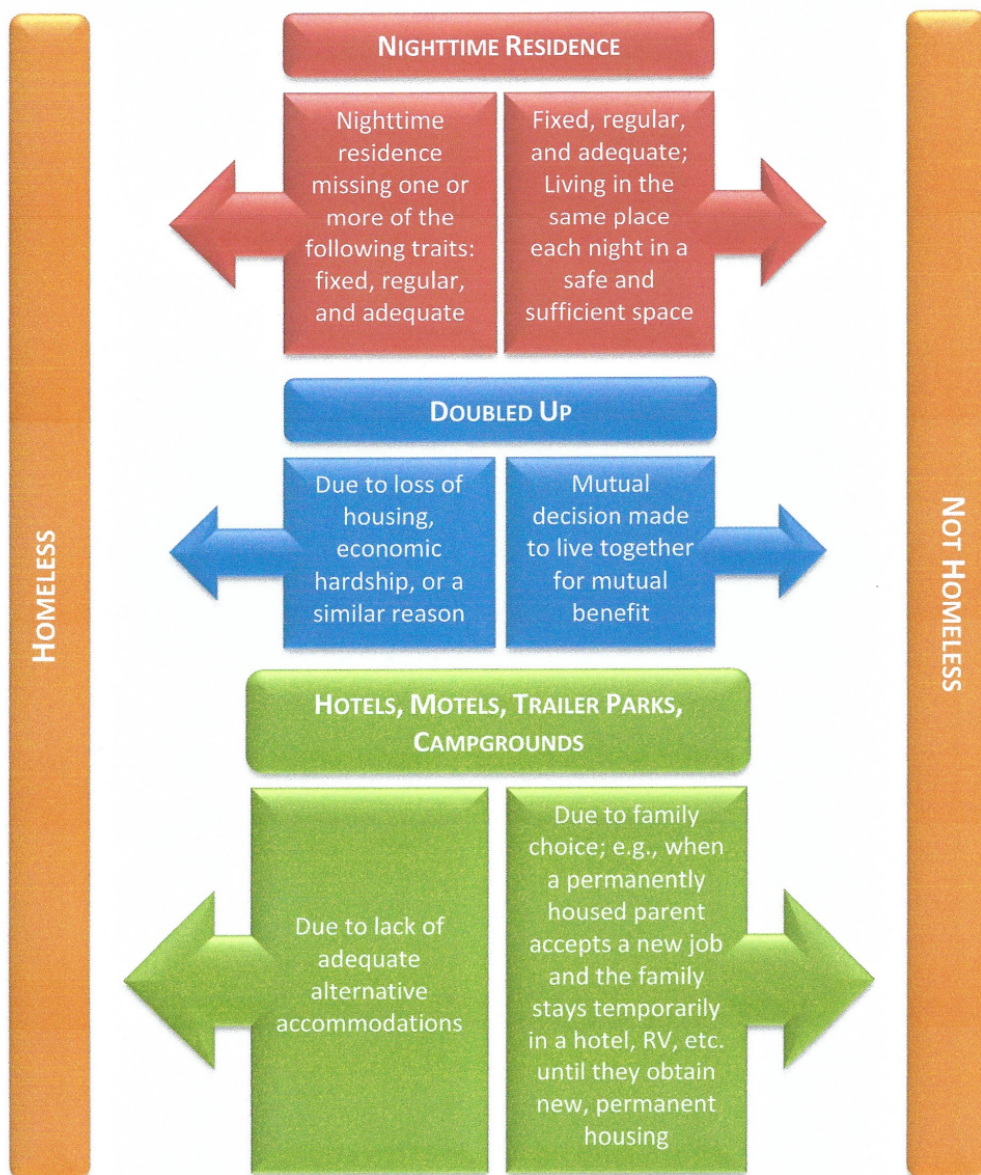
- A child can be enrolled in school even if you lack a permanent address
- A child's enrollment may NOT be delayed due to proof of residency or other documents.
- Continued enrollment in the school that he/she attended before becoming homeless, or the school for which they are currently enrolled.
- A child can attend classes while the new school secures previous school records.
- If enrollment dispute is made, a child can continue to attend classes while dispute is being heard and resolved.
- A parent can request assistance with transportation to school of origin.
- A child can participate in school programs with children who are not homeless.
- A child is eligible to receive free school meals.

School of Origin Consideration (check if yes)		Local School Consideration (check if yes)	
	Overall continuity Has your child attended the school of origin for a long time?		Overall continuity Has your child attended the school of origin for only a brief time?
	Length of anticipated stay at current residence Do you expect that you and your child will have to move again very soon, or are you unsure how long you can stay?		Length of anticipated stay at current residence Do you expect that you and your child will be able to stay where you are staying now for a while?
	Time of year Is it late in the academic year?		Time of year Is it early in the academic year?
	Personal safety of the student Does the school of origin have advantages for the safety of your child?		Personal safety of the student Does the local school have advantages for the safety of your child?
	Interaction with peers Is maintaining school friends important to your child's emotional well-being, meaningful school experience, and participation?		Interaction with peers Would your child benefit from developing relationships with school peers with live closer to his/her new community?
	Academic Strength Is your child likely to fall far behind if he/she transfers to another school?		Academic Strength Is your child likely to recover academically from a school transfer?
	Social and emotional state Has your child developed strong ties to the current school, and does not want to leave the school? Do changes in the environment or routine provoke anxiety or other difficulties for your child?		Social and emotional state Has your child experienced challenges at the current school, and/or does not mind transferring to a new school?
	Impact of the commute on the student's education Do the advantages of continuing to attend the school of origin outweigh any potential disadvantages presented by the commute?		Impact of the commute on the student's education Would a shorter commute help your child's concentration in, attitude toward, or readiness for school?
	Student's need for special instruction Does your child receive, or is he/she currently being evaluated for special education or other special services at school? Is it best for your child to continue receiving those services or complete the evaluation at the school of origin?		Student's need for special instruction If your child receives, or is currently being evaluated for special education or other special services at school. Can the local school better meet your child's needs?
	Participation in extracurricular activities Is your child active in extracurricular activities that are meaningful and important to him/her at the school of origin, and will your child be able to continue those activities while living in your current living situation?		Participation in extracurricular activities Would your child be better able to take advantage of extracurricular activities, if he/she so desired, at the local school?
	TOTAL CHECKS		TOTAL CHECKS

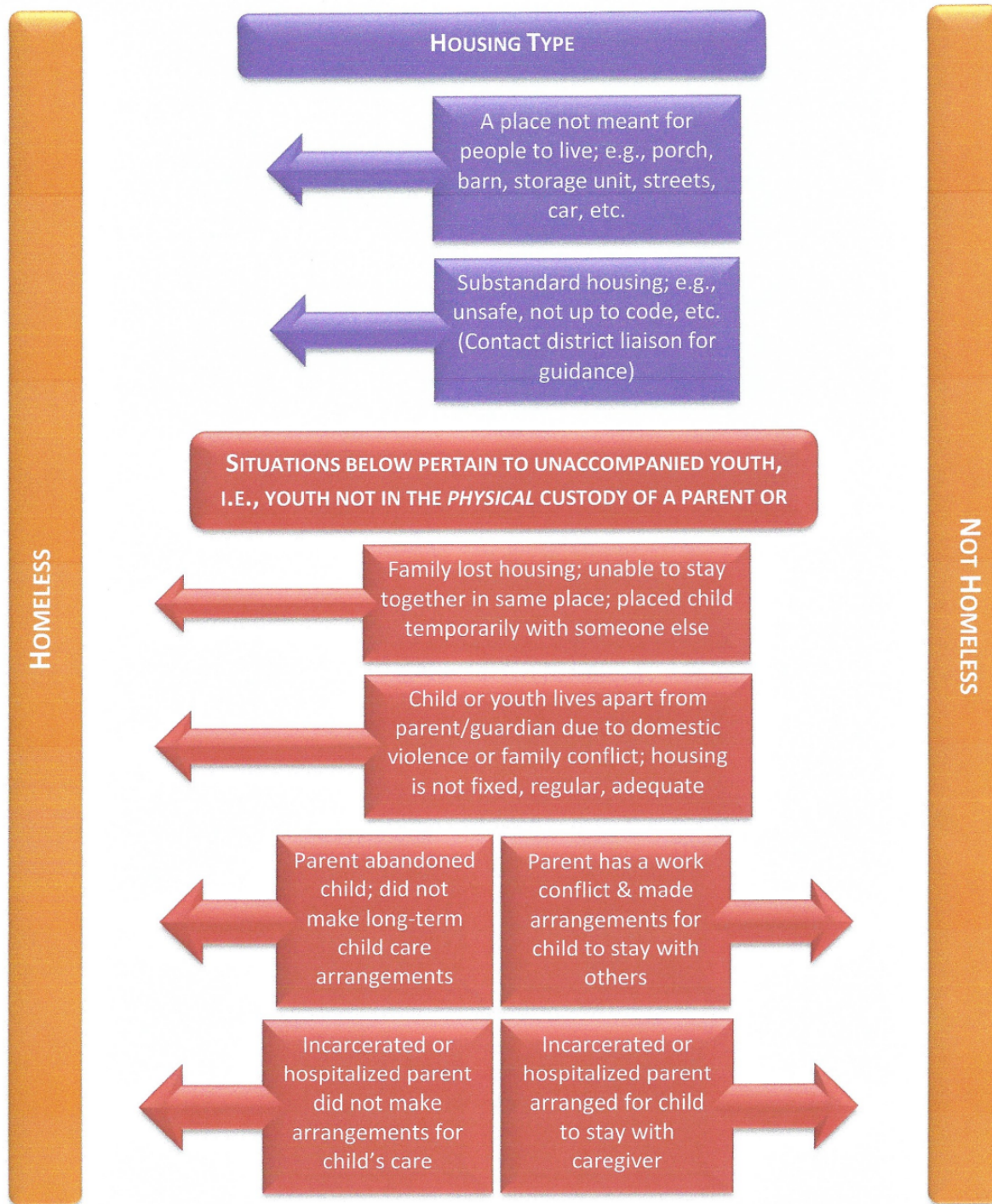
Who Is Homeless?

A Flowchart for Making Determinations for Education Services

This flowchart is meant to aid you in making decisions about a student's eligibility as homeless under the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*), but it may not capture every housing situation. For the complete definition of *homeless*, visit <https://nche.ed.gov/legis/mv-def.php>. For more information on making determinations, see the related issue brief from the National Center for Homeless Education: https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/briefs/det_elig.pdf.



*Note: Children and families who qualify for education services based on this definition may or may not qualify for housing and related assistance. Contact your local housing programs for more information.



*Note: Children and families who qualify for education services based on this definition may or may not qualify for housing and related assistance. Contact your local housing programs for more information.

Help **Child Find** Locate Children with Disabilities

What Is **Child Find**?

Child Find is a statewide effort by the Alabama State Department of Education and the Department of Rehabilitation Services to locate, identify, and evaluate children with disabilities from birth to age 21.

How Does **Child Find** Work?

Early Intervention and Special Education Services work closely with community service agencies, parents, and local school systems to locate children with disabilities. A toll-free number is provided for parents or other persons interested in information about referring a child from birth to age 21.

Why Is **Child Find** Important?

It helps the child, the family, and the provider to plan appropriate services and link families to services for students meeting eligibility requirements in the following disability areas:

- Hearing Impairment
- Deaf-Blindness
- Intellectual Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Emotional Disability
- Speech and Language Impairment
- Visual Impairment
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Autism
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Developmental Delay

For more information about **Child Find**, contact your local school system, local coordinating council, or call

Ages 3-21

1-800-543-3098
Birth through 2



Alabama State Department of Education
Eric G. Mackey, Ed. D.
State Superintendent of Education