



COLORADO
Department of Education

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Updates – February 2024

Highly Mobile Youth Professionals Peer-to-Peer Conversations

We are thrilled to be joined by **Jon Paul Burden, Special Education Director TA Specialist** to build knowledge and understanding of Child Find and the differences between a 504 and an IEP.

Over 20% of students identified as experiencing homelessness in Colorado grades K-12 were also identified through Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) at the school and district level. That is one in five students experiencing homelessness also navigating the special education spaces.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, February 13th at 11:30am to engage in this important opportunity to build knowledge and understanding about the needs of students with disabilities and experiencing housing instability.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Learning Cohort: Newcomer Support

In December 2023, the [Newcomer Support Cohort](#) was established in response to the increase in Newcomers to Colorado. This initiative, led by the District Improvement Strategy Office (DISO) at the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), aims to provide support for district and school leaders in order to ultimately support families and students facing relocation challenges.

If you are a district or school leader interested in joining the Newcomer Support Learning Cohort, contact Victory Molina - molina_v@cde.state.co.us.

Title IA Set-asides and Homeless Education

Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funding supports most school districts across the country. Under the reauthorization of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015 important requirements for serving children and youth experiencing homelessness with Title I Part A were established.

Partnership, collaboration and strategizing with the Title I director at your district is an important part of building and sustaining meaningful supports for students experiencing homelessness. The Colorado Department of Education provides [information](#) and [sample needs assessments](#) to support liaisons in considering the needs of students and how to meet them. Students experiencing homelessness should be fully included in all Educational Services programs under Title I as outlined under the [McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act](#), as well as being uniquely served through the Title I, Part A homeless set-aside.

If you have questions about Title IA set-asides and/or strategies for building and sustaining homeless education programming at your district please reach out to CDE Consultant, Cathy Ebel, cathyebel65@gmail.com

Paula Gumina
State Coordinator
Education of Homeless Children &
Youth Programs
Colorado Department of Education
303-551-3851
Gumina_p@cde.state.co.us