

Contact Information:

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McKinney-Vento Homeless Education

September 2020

Welcome Back!

**As we kick off another great academic year in Colorado, it is important to highlight the support and assistance needed to serve our McKinney-Vento students.**

**As the State Coordinator for Homeless Education, my responsibility is to provide**

**professional development, technical assistance, resources, and ensure the provisions of Every**

**Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) are upheld.**

**Monthly e-communication is a tool to share updates and important information.**

**Beginning of the Year**

**Reminders**

* Has there been a change within your

school district for the McKinney-Vento

Liaison? If so, email the updated contact

information to [Wrenick\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Wrenick_k@cde.state.co.us).

Please include: School District, Name, email, phone number

* The beginning of the school year is an opportune time to meet with

administrators, registrars, and other school personnel regarding the

identification, enrollment, and rights afforded to students experiencing homelessness. CDE provides training videos and additional resources you

may find helpful [here](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/trainingmaterialsformckinney-vento-0)

**McKinney-Vento Webpage is Updated!**

In an effort to provide the most relevant and useful information pertaining to

your role as a liaison, the MKV webpage has been updated with the following:

[Homeless Education FAQ for COVID-19 Response](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/covid-faq-mckinney-vento)

[Resources for Families Displaced by Wildfires and Other Natural Disasters](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_resources)

[2020-2021 (and previous years) Recorded Webinars](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/trainingmaterialsformckinney-vento-0)

[New McKinney-Vento Liaison Orientation](https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/poqzgfdg2m8s/)

**USDA extends free meals for all children this fall**

All children will be able to receive nutritious meals at no charge this fall at

participating school sites regardless of their eligibility status.

Normally, during the school year, students receive free or reduced priced meals if they qualify based on household income or other eligibility categories.



However, on Monday, the U.S. Department of Agriculture extended the option for child nutrition program sponsors to operate the [Summer Food Service Program](http://www.cde.state.co.us./nutrition/summerfoodserviceprogram) and Seamless Summer Option through as late as Dec. 31, 2020, dependent on

available funding. This allows schools to offer nutritious meals to all children at no

charge this fall.

For more information, visit the [CDE School Nutrition webpage](http://www.cde.state.co.us./nutrition/summerfoodserviceprogram) or contact [summermealprogram@cde.state.co.us](mailto:summermealprogram@cde.state.co.us).

**New Data Elements for Homeless Students**

Effective July 1, 2020- school districts are required to track additional information related to the “Cause of Housing Crisis.” A webinar was conducted on August 4, 2020 and a recording can be found [here](https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/pgbu8y6emvy1/).

Make every effort to connect with data managers to ensure these elements have been added to your Student Information System.

**Back to School Resources**

[McKinney-Vento Frequently Asked Questions](https://naehcy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2017-10-16_NAEHCY-FAQs.pdf)

[10 Things YOU Can Do to Help Homeless Children Go Back To School](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/mv_10thingsforbacktoschool) (can be distributed to increase school and community awareness)

[Common Signs of Homelessness](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/mv_commonsignsofhomelessness) (flyer)

[Tip Sheets for Multiple Audiences](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/mv_multipleaudiencetipsheets) (can assist in building awareness and collaboration to support McKinney eligible students)

[LEA Homeless Liaison Toolkit](https://nche.ed.gov/homeless-liaison-toolkit/)

[Title IA Homeless Set-Asides](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_resources-titlei)

[Higher Education Homeless Resources](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_highered)

**SHC Launches Public Awareness Effort to Reach Homeless Families and Youth**

To help inform homeless families and youth about their educational rights, **SchoolHouse Connection announces two public service announcements** **(PSA)** aimed at reaching families, educators, community organizations, and local leaders:

* A PSA from Sesame Street Workshop with a message from Elmo for parents and children experiencing homelessness.
* A PSA aimed at educators and community members to engage them in efforts to identify and assist families and youth experiencing homelessness.

1. **You can view both PSAs** - and more information on how to help - [here](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/lets-educate-every-child/).
2. **Please circulate the** [PSAs](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/lets-educate-every-child/) **to anyone in your network** who is (or could be) involved with efforts to support local youth, children, and families: mayors, superintendents, principals, teachers, community organizations, and others who may be in contact with children and families day-to-day (ex: housing specialists, counselors, social workers, judges, legal aid, librarians, and food bank staffers).
3. **Please use** [this social media toolkit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ja77-veV7aP5M8A_7ObRWgFbDOMROlKaGeRAqe3_e38/edit) **to help get the word out**. It contains sample social media posts, sample email/newsletter language, and other resources to share. You can customize as you see fit.

**Professional Development**

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) highlights the requirement for Liaisons to participate in and conduct ongoing professional development that enhances knowledge and skills within the McKinney-Vento program. There are various opportunities for professional development including, but not limited to: Liaison trainings, [NAEHCY Conference](https://naehcy.org/conference/2020-conference/), State Conferences, webinars, national trainings. It is important to stay current within homeless education and changes that may impact your work.

## NAEHCY goes Virtual!

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the decision has been made to shift the NAEHCY Conference to a fully virtual event. This shift was made out of an abundance of caution, with the safety and well-being of our attendees at the heart of the decision. We are also shifting the conference dates in an effort to make it more accessible to everyone. The PreConference Sessions will take place on Thursday, October 1. The full conference will take place Monday – Friday, October 5-9, 2020.

**Free Trainings**

Throughout the fall CDE will be supporting virtual trainings hosted by national experts that Health & Wellness Department have contracted with to support schools and grantees specifically with various topics such as:

•             Return to School Support

•             A Framework for Creating, Sustaining, and Assessing the Trauma-Informed Classroom

•             Social and Emotional Learning

•             Transformational Emotional Intelligence for Educators

•             The Impact of Stress on Learning and Behavior and Creating Developmentally Relevant Strategies

•             Student Case Presentations and Book Study – The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog

You can find the attached bios and flyers with information about each upcoming training series from Heather Forbes and Jessica Pfeiffer. You can access the link for the trainings with Alex Kajitani and his co-trainers here: <https://coloradoedonline.com/>

Along with specific details and training dates in the flyers, registration links are included as well. I encourage you look at each of these closely to understand how the material will support the valuable work you are currently doing. Please note that these trainings begin quickly in the month of September and go throughout the fall.

#### ****MCKINNEY-VENTO 101: UNDERSTANDING THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS****

Wednesday, September 9, 2020 | 12:00PM-1:00PM MT

**Register:**<https://uncg.webex.com/uncg/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaecb95681d0c360714fa42509cd51ffa>  
**Description:** In this interactive NCHE webinar, presenters will provide a high-level overview of the educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness under Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Presenters will cover:

* Understanding the relationship between housing and school performance
* McKinney-Vento basics and context
* Eligibility for McKinney-Vento rights and services
* Immediate school enrollment, school selection, and transportation rights under McKinney-Vento
* The McKinney-Vento dispute resolution process

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with presenters and fellow attendees through polls and Q&A/discussion periods.

**Handouts:** You may download webinar handouts at <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-101-understanding-the-rights-of-students-experiencing-homelessness/>.

#### ****DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR MCKINNEY-VENTO RIGHTS AND SERVICES****

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 | 12:00PM-1:00PM MT

**Register:**<https://uncg.webex.com/uncg/onstage/g.php?MTID=e7a2c7d450179e3a153fee60ad2980c4f>  
**Description:**In this interactive NCHE webinar, presenters will review the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless children and youth, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Presenters will cover:

* McKinney-Vento Act basics and context
* Understanding the dynamics of family and youth homelessness
* The McKinney-Vento definition of homeless
* McKinney-Vento provisions on dispute resolution, including disputes related to eligibility

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with presenters and fellow attendees through polls and Q&A/discussion periods.

**Handouts:** You may download webinar handouts at <https://nche.ed.gov/determining-eligibility-webinar/>.

#### ****MCKINNEY-VENTO SCHOOL SELECTION RIGHTS****

Tuesday, September 29, 2020 | 12:00PM-1:00PM MT

**Register:**<https://uncg.webex.com/uncg/onstage/g.php?MTID=e4f8f31063125bef2f8b9da6adda5ec98>  
**Description:** In this interactive NCHE webinar, presenters will review important changes related to school selection for homeless children and youth under the McKinney-Vento Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Presenters will cover:

* McKinney-Vento basics and context
* The McKinney-Vento Act’s definition of school of origin, McKinney-Vento provisions related to determining the best interest of a student in terms of school selection (local school or school of origin)
* The provision of school-of-origin transportation to currently homeless students and formerly homeless students who have become permanently housed
* McKinney-Vento provisions related to dispute resolution, including disputes about school enrollment and selection

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with presenters and fellow attendees through polls and Q&A/discussion periods.

**Handouts:** You may download webinar handouts at <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-school-selection-rights/>.