

# MCKINNEY-VENTO PROGRAM

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

If you lost your housing and now live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, camping ground, or temporary trailer; on the street; doubled-up with family or friends; or in another type of temporary or inadequate housing, your child might be able to receive assistance through a federal law called the McKinney-Vento Act.

### Services Provided:

- ◆ Students can remain at their school (*called school of origin*) for the school year, even if the residence is outside the attendance area for that school
- ◆ Enroll in school immediately, even without proof of residence, birth certificate, immunization, school records
- ◆ Transportation is provided so students can remain at the school of origin for the rest of the school year
- ◆ Free breakfast and lunch
- ◆ Enroll, attend classes and participate fully in all school activities while the school gathers records
- ◆ Have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students
- ◆ Have the right to appeal a decision regarding eligibility
- ◆ Assistance with school supplies, community resources and more

Services are set up through the McKinney-Vento Liaison in the school building. The McKinney-Vento Liaison is the School Social Worker at the elementary and middle schools. The McKinney-Vento Liaison at the high school is the Student Assistance Program (SAP) Counselor.

Services are only provided for the school calendar year in which a student is determined eligible.

## STAY CONNECTED!

Contact the School Social Worker in elementary and middle schools or the SAP Counselor in high school for assistance with eligibility, services, change of addresses or for any other concern regarding your child’s education.



MY LIAISON IS \_\_\_\_\_, PH# \_\_\_\_\_

## TRANSPORTATION

- ⇒ Communicate all address changes or new phone numbers to the school McKinney-Vento Liaison
- ⇒ Provide a working phone number and an alternate number (spouse, partner, work, friend, neighbor or relative’s phone number) - Transportation will use the phone numbers to contact you
- ⇒ Transportation may call in the evening or on weekends
- ⇒ If you do not have a working phone number or alternate number, the school McKinney-Vento Liaison or a Case Manager may be the contact person for transportation and can provide you with the information he or she receives
- ⇒ If you do not hear about transportation **4 days** after giving the new address to the school McKinney-Vento liaison, please call the liaison to ask about the status of transportation
- ⇒ How your child gets to school (walk, cab or bus) **may change each time you move** - the decision is made by Wake County Schools Transportation department

## WHO CAN HELP MY CHILD AT SCHOOL?

- ⇒ **McKinney-Vento Liaison** | The McKinney-Vento Liaison may be able to assist with school supplies, clothing, meals, transportation, community resources, understanding IEP meetings, parent/teacher conferences and locating additional support for your child in the classroom.
- ⇒ **Teacher** | Ask for the teacher's contact information. Introduce yourself to the teacher. Talk to the teacher periodically about how your child is doing in the classroom. If your child has more than one teacher, know at least one teacher well enough to ask questions about how your child is doing at school. Share with the teacher(s) any concerns you have about your child's learning.
- ⇒ **School Counselor** | Share with the Counselor any social or emotional concerns that may impact the child's learning in the classroom. At the high school level, share your interest in learning more about your child's opportunities for a higher education. Scholarships and financial assistance are available.

### DID YOU KNOW ?



You are the **MOST IMPORTANT** partner in your child's education. School staff need you on their team to provide the best support for your child in school.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD IN SCHOOL?

- ♥ Make sure your elementary to middle school child gets 10-11 hours of sleep every night. Your teenager should get 8-9 hours of sleep every night.
- ♥ Monitor your child's health needs and take care of problems early.
- ♥ Make sure your child goes to school every day.
- ♥ Check your child's backpack every day for important items that may need your attention.
- ♥ Provide a quiet place for your child to do homework. If a quiet place is not possible, ask your McKinney-Vento Liaison if the student can complete homework at school.
- ♥ Have your child explain what he/she is learning in school. If you show interest in your child's education, he or she will know that school is important.
- ♥ Read to your child every day and talk about what you read. For older children, set aside time each day for you and your child to read together silently.
- ♥ Praise your child for what he or she does well.
- ♥ Talk about college as early as elementary school. Scholarships and financial assistance are available.
- ♥ Get involved in your child's education in middle and high school (help select classes, monitor homework, ask about the day and talk to your child about current events (ex. TV, books, news, etc.).
- ♥ Listen to what your child shares with you and talk about any problems he or she is having. You can also talk about these problems with a teacher, school social worker or school counselor.



Reference: Engle, E. (1989, May). *Socioeconomic status, family structure, and parental involvement: The correlates of achievement*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco.