

# **Bacanton Community Charter School**

## **Procedure For Educating Homeless Students**

### **Identified Under McKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT**

September, 2020

Bacanton Community Charter School seeks to ensure that each homeless student has equal access to the same free appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as required by federal law. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. § 11434a (2) et. seq., identifies homeless students as those who:

- Lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.
- Share the housing of other persons due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- live in emergency or transitional shelters
- are abandoned in hospitals or are awaiting foster care placement
- 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
- Live in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- Are migratory and live in the conditions set forth in Items 2, 3, and 4 above.

#### **A. IDENTIFICATION**

Homeless children and youth will be identified through the following sources:

1. School personnel will inquire about homelessness upon enrollment of students using the StudentResidency Questionnaire
2. School personnel will notify the Homeless Liaison of any possible students in who are or may be homeless.
3. The Homeless Liaison will consult with community agencies to identify homeless students.

#### **B. SCHOOL SELECTION**

There is only one school within this LEA, so there are no requirements with regard to school selection.

#### **C. ENROLLMENT AND WITHDRAWAL OF HOMELESS STUDENTS:**

##### 1. Enrollment:

- a. The Registrar or designee shall notify the Homeless Liaison when a homeless student is identified.
- b. The school shall provide the parent/guardian with information regarding Homeless services.

c. Homeless students qualify for free breakfast and lunch. To obtain free lunch for a homeless student the Parent/guardian or school must complete and sign a Student Residency Questionnaire and forward it to the Homeless Liaison to determine eligibility. If the student qualifies for free meals under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the Homeless Liaison will contact the Nutrition Director who will notify the Cafeteria Manager about the student's immediate qualification for free lunch. Free lunch for homeless students will extend to the end of the school year.

d. When students enroll without records (i.e., transcripts/grade reports, birth certificate immunizations/health records) the Principal or designee shall:

i. Contact the former school to request the student's records and discuss immunization information and tentative placement;

ii. Create a cumulative record if it is determined that the records are not available;

iii. Refer the student to public health and provide follow-up to ensure that the student has been immunized, if there are no immunization records;

e. Parents/guardians shall provide the school with contact information.

## **2. Withdrawal:**

Homeless students often leave school without officially withdrawing. If the school is contacted by another district for a homeless student's records, requested information shall be provided and school records sent within 15 days to the receiving school district.

## **D. TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation for homeless students is offered in the same capacity as for all BCCS students.

## **E. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:**

1. If a dispute arises over enrollment:

a. The parent/guardian shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision, including the right to appeal.

b. The dispute shall be presented to the District's Homeless Liaison who will then consult with the Director of Federal Programs.

c. If the matter is not resolved at that level, the family may appeal to the Baconton Community Charter School Board of Directors for a decision.

2. Once the District's decision has been reached, the parent/guardian shall be provided with a written explanation of the District's decision and the parent/guardian's right to appeal such a decision.

## **H. ROLE OF THE HOMELESS LIAISON:**

The role of the District's Homeless Liaison is to provide that:

1. Homeless students and unaccompanied youth:
  - a. Are identified by school personnel
  - b. Enroll in and have an equal opportunity to succeed in school
  - c. Receive educational services for which they are eligible
  - d. Are referred to community agencies if other support resources are needed
2. Parents/guardians of homeless students are made aware of educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with a meaningful opportunity to participate in their children's education.
3. Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
4. Students who do not have immunization or medical records are assisted.
5. Collaborate and coordinate with State Coordinators for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth and community and school personnel responsible for providing education and related support services to homeless children and youth.

Revised 08/2019

# BACONTON COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

## STUDENT RESIDENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

School \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

The answers to this questionnaire will help determine services the students may be eligible to receive under the McKinneyVento Homeless Assistance Act.

1. Is your current address a temporary living arrangement? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO
2. Is this temporary living arrangement due to loss of housing or economic hardship? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

If you answered YES to the above questions, please complete the remainder of this form

If you answered NO, you may stop here.

Where is the student presently living? Select one.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason

(example: evicted from home, cannot afford housing, etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_ In a motel, hotel, campground or similar setting due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.

\_\_\_\_\_ In emergency or transitional shelters such as domestic violence or homeless shelter.

\_\_\_\_\_ In a primary nighttime residence that is a place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans.

\_\_\_\_\_ In cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.

\_\_\_\_\_ None of the above.

How long do you anticipate living at this location?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Signature Date

Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Children living in homeless situations have certain rights under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act under No Child Left Behind. Please contact Tyler Autry, Homeless Liaison at 229-787-9999 if you have any questions.

THIS SECTION IS FOR SCHOOL USE: Send a copy to SNP Director.

I certify the above named student qualified for the Child Nutrition Program under the provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act.

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McKinney-Vento Liaison Signature/Date

Revised 08/2019

## Cuestionario de Residencia para los Estudiantes

Escuela: \_\_\_\_\_ Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Nombre del Estudiante: \_\_\_\_\_ Fecha de Nacimiento: \_\_\_\_\_

Grado: \_\_\_\_\_

Las repuestas a estas preguntas ayudarán determinar los servicios que el estudiante debe recibir. El propósito de este cuestionario es presentar los objetivos del Acta McKinney-Vento (41 U.S.S 111435).

1. ¿Es su domicilio actual un arreglo de vivienda temporal (de poca duración)? \_\_\_\_\_ SI \_\_\_\_\_ NO

2. ¿Es este arreglo de vivienda temporal debido a la pérdida de su casa, vivienda o habitación

debido a algún problema económico (ejemplo: desempleo)? \_\_\_\_\_ SI \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Si usted contestó SI a estas preguntas, por favor complete el resto de esta hoja.

Si usted contestó NO a estas preguntas, no siga con lo demás.

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¿Dónde se encuentra viviendo el estudiante actualmente? (Marque una opción.).

\_\_\_\_\_ Comparte el albergue de otras personas debido a pérdida de albergue, penalidad económica, o una razón similar

(ejemplo: desahució de hogar, no puede producir albergue, etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_ En un motel, hotel, campamento o escena similar debido a falta de alternativas adecuadas.

\_\_\_\_\_ En emergencia o resguardos de transición tal como violencia doméstica o resguardo sin casa ni hogar.

\_\_\_\_\_ En una residencia de la noche primaria que es un lugar no diseñado por lo ordinariamente usaba como un regular

acomodación de dormir por humanos.

\_\_\_\_\_ En carros, parques, espacios públicos, edificios abandonados, albergue de baja calidad, autobús o estaciones del

tren, o escenas similar.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ninguno de estos.

¿Cuánto tiempo anticipa vivir en esta situación?

\_\_\_\_\_

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Firma de Padre o Guardián

Fecha

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dirección

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Los niños viviendo en situaciones sin casa ni hogar tienen ciertos derechos bajo el Acta McKinney-Vento Ayuda a los sin casa ni hogar y bajo el

Acta No Child Left Behind. Favor de contactarle a Tyler Autry, Enlace local para los "sin casa ni hogar" a 229-787-9999 si tiene cualquier

preguntas.

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I certify the above named student qualified for the Child Nutrition Program under the provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act.

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McKinney-Vento Liaison Signature/Date

Revised 08/2019

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

If your family lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and is forced to live in any of the following situations:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (example: evicted from home, etc.);
- In a motel, hotel, campground or similar setting due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- In an emergency or transitional shelter;
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans;
- In a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or a similar setting;

Then your children have the right to:

- Enroll in school without proof of residency, immunization, school records, or other documents.
- Attend school and participate in school programs with children who are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.
- Receive all the school services available to other students.

Local Contact:

Tyler Autry, Homeless Liaison

260 E Walton Street

Baconton, Georgia, 31716

Phone: 229-787-9999

Fax: 229-787-0077

Email: [tautry@bccsblazers.org](mailto:tautry@bccsblazers.org)

State Contact:

State Coordinator for Homeless Education

Georgia Department of Education

Phone: 404-656-4148

\*\*This policy will be presented to the Governing Board on August 15, 2019 for viewing and voted upon in September, 2019 board meeting.