

**PATAULA CHARTER ACADEMY
PROCEDURE FOR EDUCATING HOMELESS STUDENTS
IDENTIFIED UNDER McKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT**

Pataula Charter Academy 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; or
- 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 Student Residency 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 Records Clerk 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 PCA students. PCA buses stop at one central location in towns throughout the five-county area.

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 Pataula Charter Academy 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.

**PATAULA CHARTER ACADEMY
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 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act under No Child Left Behind.

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 Kylie Holley, local Homeless Liaison at 229-835-3322 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.

McKinney-Vento Liaison Signature/Date

Las Escuelas del Condado de Rabun

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 este hoja.

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

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

_____ Comparte el albergue de otro 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 alternativa acomodaciones 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 diseñaba por U 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 estes.

¿Cuánto tiempo anticipa vivir en esta situación? _____

Firma de Padre o Guardián

Fecha

Dirección _____

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 Kylie Holley, Enlace local para los "sin casa ni hogar" a 229-835-3322 si tiene cualquier preguntas.

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.

McKinney-Vento Liaison Signature/Date

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:

Kathy Martin, Homeless Liaison
18637 Hartford St.
Edison, Georgia 39846
Phone: 229-354-4001
Fax: 229-835-2233
Email: kmartin@pataula.net

State Contact:

State Coordinator for Homeless Education
Georgia Department of Education
Phone: 404-656-4148

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS -Spanish
Información Para Los Padres
Ley de Asistencia a Los Que No Tienen Hogar McKinney-Vento

Si su familia carece de una residencia nocturna fija, regular y adecuada y se ve obligada a vivir en cualquiera de las siguientes situaciones:

- Compartiendo la vivienda de otras personas debido a la pérdida de su vivienda, apuro económico o una razón similar (ejemplo: desalojado de la casa, etc.).
- En un motel, hotel, campamento o escenario similar debido a la falta de alojamiento adecuado alternativo.
- En un refugio de emergencia o transitorio.
- Tiene una residencia nocturna primaria que no ha sido diseñada para esos fines o que normalmente no se usa como alojamiento de dormir regular para humanos.
- En un carro, espacio público, edificio abandonado, vivienda de calidad inferior, estación de autobús o tren o un escenario similar.

Entonces sus hijos tienen el derecho de:

- Inscribirse en la escuela sin prueba de residencia, inmunización, expediente escolar u otros documentos.
- Asistir a la escuela y participar en programas escolares con niños que tienen vivienda. Los niños no pueden ser separados del programa escolar regular porque no tienen hogar.
- Recibir todos los servicios escolares disponibles a otros estudiantes

Coordinadores del Programa Sin Hogar del Distrito Escolar del Condado de Rabun:

Kathy Martin, Homeless Liaison

18637 Hartford St.

Edison, Georgia 39846

Phone: 229-354-4001

Fax: 229-835-2233

Email: kmartin@pataula.net

Coordinador Estatal para la Educación de Personas Sin Hogar:

State Coordinator for Homeless Education

Georgia Department of Education

Phone: 404-656-4148