

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES MCKINNEY-VENTO TOOLKIT

### THANK YOU!

The 20-21 school year is already shaping up to be one of the most difficult of any we have faced before. All staff members are being asked to learn and adapt at an incredible pace and are rising to the challenge. Our families and students are working hard to stay connected to our schools in the face of unprecedented economic hardship, job loss, and housing instability. Thank you for your patience and kindness for one another, yourself, and for our families as we navigate this crisis together.

ENROLLMENT	IDENTIFICATION	BEST PRACTICES AND SUPPORTS
<p><b><u>MCKINNEY- VENTO</u></b></p> <p>The McKinney-Vento (MKV) Act defines homeless children and youths as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> for definitions of fixed, regular, and adequate. This definition also includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason</li> <li>•Children and youths who may be living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, shelters, or cars</li> <li>•Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are children who are living in similar circumstances listed above</li> </ul> <p><b><u>ENROLLMENT</u></b></p> <p>Under the law it is <b>REQUIRED</b> that we <b>immediately</b> enroll any student experiencing homelessness, even if the student is unable to provide documents that are typically required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, records of immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, or other documentation. <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> for more information.</p> <p>Schools <b>may not</b> require verification or proof of residency as a condition of enrollment. If you have questions or concerns about a family's living situation, enroll the student and <b>then</b> inform the McKinney-Vento Liaison via email at <a href="mailto:adunham@slzUSD.org">adunham@slzUSD.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>IDENTIFICATION:</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Returning Students</i></b> In the past, we have required families to complete a new MKV form at the beginning of each school year if their circumstances have not changed. Given the extreme challenges of Covid-19 and Distance Learning, we will rollover all students with existing McKinney-Vento status and will <b>NOT</b> require a new form for the 20-21 school year. Student Support Services will work to verify each family's current status.</p> <p><b><i>New Students or New Circumstances</i></b> There are several ways we may come to learn about a family's housing instability. If you believe a family may be experiencing homelessness under the definition of the McKinney- Vento Act, you may work with them to complete the form or refer them to Student Support Services for assistance. A fillable version of the new McKinney-Vento form can be found <a href="#">HERE</a>. Wet signatures are not required as long as a staff name and caregiver name are entered electronically.</p> <p><b><u>DOCUMENTATION</u></b></p> <p>Once you have completed a form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•If there are siblings at additional sites, email the form to the appropriate site for their reference</li> <li>•Email the form to <a href="mailto:cjacobsen@slzUSD.org">cjacobsen@slzUSD.org</a> in Student Support Services. Our office will inform Child Nutrition <b>and</b> enter the program record in Aeries. <b>Do NOT enter the record in Aeries at your site.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>INQUIRING</u></b></p> <p>If you have reason to believe a family may be experiencing housing instability, you may ask informative, yet non-invasive questions about a student's living arrangement. However, work to avoid using the word "homeless," as families or youth may not consider themselves homeless even though their living arrangement meets the definition. Instead incorporate questions that describe living arrangements included in the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless. If you are uncomfortable with inquiring, refer family to the McKinney-Vento Liaison at <a href="mailto:adunham@slzUSD.org">adunham@slzUSD.org</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> and <a href="#">HERE</a> for more tips.</p> <p><b><u>COST</u></b></p> <p>If you believe a <b>student</b> is in need of support, housing or otherwise, our COST teams are still working remotely from home and have developed a process for staff to refer students and families for additional support. <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> for an overview of the Distance Learning COST process. If you feel the need to make a COST referral, please <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to find your site's referral form.</p> <p><b><u>SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIAISON SUPPORT</u></b></p> <p>If you believe a <b>family</b> is in need of extra support, including but not limited to housing, please make them aware of our School Community Liaisons. The team wants to stay connected to students and families during this challenging time. They have created a contact form as a way to request support for a variety of needs, from food assistance to tech support. <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a> to access the form and <a href="#">HERE</a> for Family Resources.</p>