


Supporting Children & Youth Experiencing Homelessness with School Partnerships

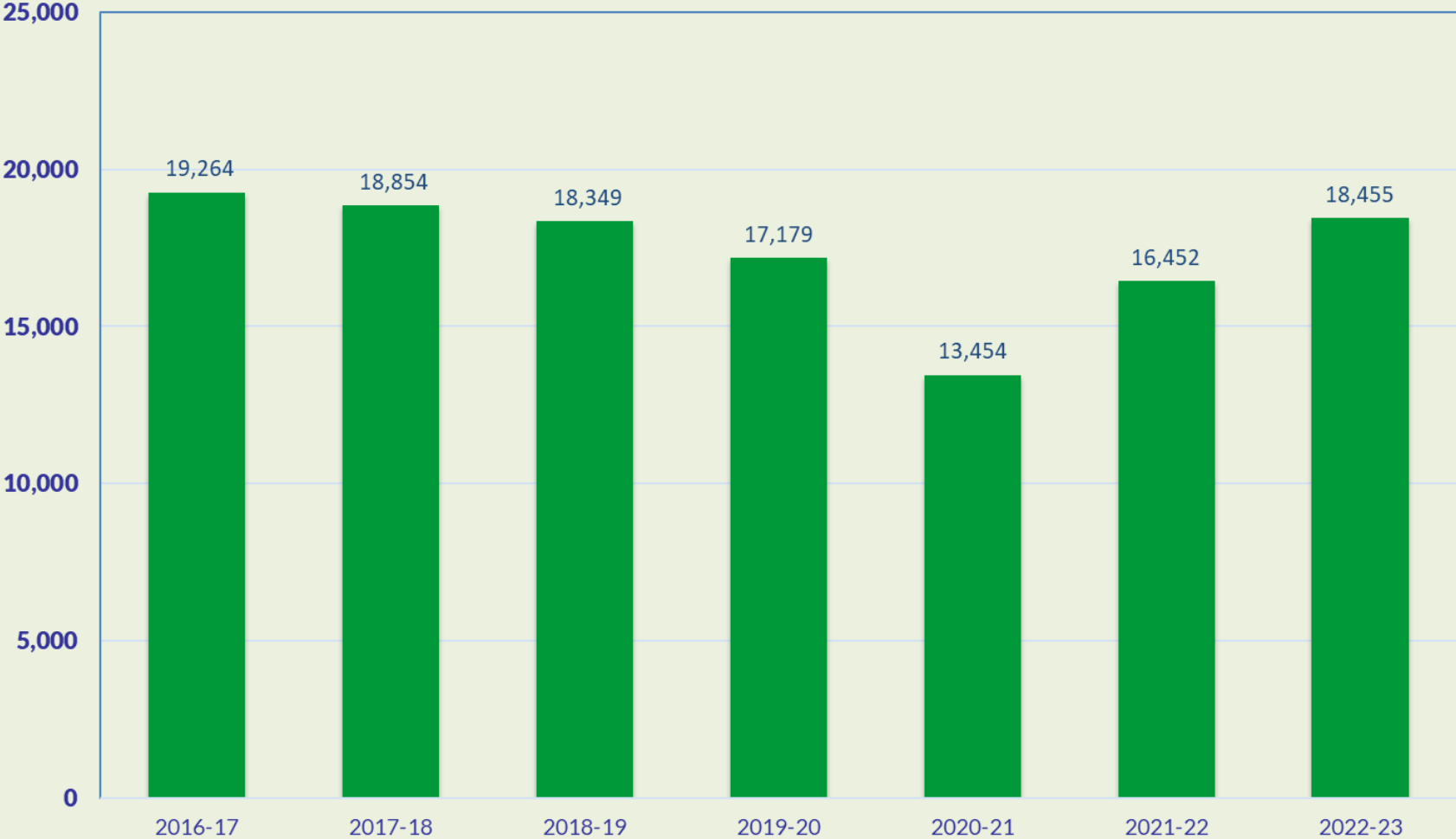
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McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- The intent of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is to ensure all children and youth experiencing homelessness receive access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youth.
 - As part of the McKinney-Vento Act, all school districts are required to remove barriers to the enrollment, attendance, and the academic success of children and youth experiencing homelessness.
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Homeless Student Enrollment in Wisconsin 2017-2023



Homelessness Defined

The term “homeless” children and youth means:

“Children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence—”

What exactly is a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence?



Fixed, Regular, and Adequate

- **Fixed:**
 - Stationary, permanent, not subject to change
- **Regular:**
 - Used on a predictable, routine, consistent basis
 - Consider the relative permanence
- **Adequate:**
 - Lawfully and reasonably sufficient
 - Sufficient for meeting the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment

Can the student go to the **SAME PLACE** (fixed) **EVERY NIGHT** (regular) to sleep in a **SAFE AND SUFFICIENT SPACE** (adequate)?

Lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence with:

- i. Sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; hotels, trailer parks, or campgrounds due to lack of alternatives; emergency or transitional shelters; abandoned in hospitals
- ii. Primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designed for ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans
- iii. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- iv. Migratory children who meet clauses (i) through (iii)

And a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian

Unaccompanied Youth

Unaccompanied children and youth whose living arrangements meet the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless are eligible for services under the Act. The term unaccompanied youth is defined in the Act as “a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian” [42 U.S.C. § 11434a(6)].

McKinney-Vento Supports

- Free meals under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs
- Fees waived for school programs and extracurricular programs
- Referrals for additional supports (Head Start, child care, health care, dental, mental health, substance use, housing and other appropriate services)
- Unaccompanied homeless youth can be an independent student for FASFA
- Transportation to the school the student attended before experiencing homelessness (school of origin)



Determining McKinney-Vento Eligibility

Directions

01 Listen to the Example

02 Review Eligibility Requirements

03 Vote
Vote with confidence and cheer on learning.

04 Review Together

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Pursuit of Happiness

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A man and his young son are evicted from their apartment and stay in motels, shelters, and a public restroom.



-Image from IMBD.com

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The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

"I got in one little fight and my mom got scared. She said, "You're movin' with your auntie and uncle in Bel-Air"



-Image from rottentomatoes.com

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Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

Charlie lives in deep poverty in a two room home with both sets of grandparents. There are only 2 beds. There is no kitchen and a hole in the roof.



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Pregnant Kim Kardashian Staying with Her Mom

Kim is pregnant and renovating a home. She moves into her mom's house for the end of her pregnancy and postpartum time until her house is ready.



-Image from <https://people.com/tv/kim-kardashian-west-kanye-west-and-daughter-north-move-back-in-with-kris-jenner/>

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Sister Wife Living in a Trailer on Their Land

Years later, the family buys a piece of land in hopes to build homes on it. When one wife's lease ends, she decides to live in a camper on the land until she can build a home on the land.



-Image from
<https://www.intouchweekly.com/posts/sister-wives-janelle-browns-rv-life-on-coyote-pass/>

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Teen Mom

A teenage mother and her baby move in with her baby's father and his parents. She goes on a date with someone else, and he kicks her out.



-Image from
<https://www.mtv.com/news/7hsema/kaily-n-jo-teen-mom-2-fights>

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School District Homeless Liaisons

Every school district must designate a McKinney-Vento homeless liaison able to carry out their legal duties.

The local liaison serves as one of the primary contacts between families experiencing homelessness and school staff, district personnel, shelter workers, and other service providers. The liaison coordinates services to ensure that children and youth experiencing homelessness enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically.


[Wisconsin Homeless Liaison Directory](#)

Head Start

Students experiencing Homelessness under the McKinney Vento Definition of Homelessness are categorically eligible for Head Start programming.

[Head Start-Find a Program Near You](#)

Discussion

- **What resources are in your community to connect families to?**
 - **Do you know what housing resources exist?**
 - **How do you currently partner with schools and other educational and childhood supportive programs?**
 - **What do you see is the biggest need in your community?**
 - **Consider how you can build new reciprocal relationships in your community.**
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Resources

- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Education for Homeless Children and Youth
<https://dpi.wi.gov/homeless>
- SchoolHouse Connection
<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/>
- National Center for Homeless Education
<https://nche.ed.gov/>
- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth
<http://www.naehcy.org/>

Contact Us

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