

Students

Homeless Students

The Brookfield Board of Education shall make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children within the district, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their education which may exist in district policies or practices.

Homeless students, as defined by federal and state statutes, residing within the school district shall be entitled to free school privileges. Students residing in a temporary shelter are entitled to free school privileges from the district in which the shelter is located or from the school district where they would otherwise reside if not for the placement in the temporary shelter. The district in which the temporary shelter is located shall notify the district where the student would otherwise be attending. The district so notified may choose to either:

1. continue to provide educational services, including transportation between the temporary shelter and the school in the home district; or
2. pay tuition to the district in which the temporary shelter is located.

Homeless students within the district not placed in a shelter remain the district's responsibility to provide continued educational services. Such services for the child may be:

1. continued in the school that the student attended when permanently housed or in the school of last enrollment; or
2. provided in the school attended by other students living in the same attendance area where the homeless child lives.

Homeless children shall be provided educational services comparable to those provided to other students enrolled in the district, including but not limited to transportation services, compensatory educational programs, gifted and talented, special education, ESL, health services and food and nutrition programs.

The Superintendent of Schools shall refer identified homeless children under the age of eighteen who may reside within the school district, unless such children are emancipated minors, to the Connecticut Department of Children and Families.

Homeless Students (Cont'd)

The district administration shall attempt to remove existing barriers to school attendance by homeless emancipated minors and youth eighteen years of age:

1. Enrollment requirements which may constitute a barrier to the education of the homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent. If the district is unable to determine the student's grade level due to missing or incomplete records, the district shall administer tests or utilize other reasonable means to determine the appropriate grade level for the child.
2. Fees and charges which may present a barrier to the enrollment or transfer of a homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent.
3. Customary transportation policies and regulations may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent.
4. Official school records policies and regulations may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent.
5. The district shall make a reasonable effort to locate immunization records from information available or shall arrange for students to receive immunizations through health agencies and at district expense if no other recourse is available. Immunizations, may, however, be waived for homeless youth only in accordance with provisions of Board of Education policy on immunizations.
6. Other barriers to school attendance by homeless youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

The district's educational liaison for homeless children is the school social worker.

(cf. 5143 Student Health Assessments and Immunizations)
(cf. 5146 Child Abuse and Neglect)

Students

Homeless Students (Cont'd)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-253(e) School privileges for children in certain placements, non
resident children and children in temporary shelters.

17a – 101 Protection of children from abuse. Reports required
of certain professional persons. When child may be removed
from surrounding without court order.

17a-102 Report of danger of abuse.

17a-103 Reports by others.

17a-106 Cooperation in relation to prevention, identification
and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

46b-120 Definitions

McKinnney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (PL 107-110-Sec
1032

Policy adopted: 10/2/85

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Brookfield, Connecticut