**What is the McKinney-Vento Act?**

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines homeless youth as students whose living situation is not *fixed, regular and adequate*. Unaccompanied youth are defined as students fitting the definition of homelessness and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. The McKinney-Vento Act is a Federal Law and is Title IX of ESSA (Every Students Succeeds Act).

The McKinney-Vento Act provides educational accommodations and supports.

**Students May Qualify If They are Staying in the Following Categories:**

- Shelter or transitional housing program
- Motel, hotel (paid or with vouchers)
- Doubled up with friend of relative *due to loss of housing* and economic hardship
- Unsheltered/Inadequate Housing - cars, RVs, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, inadequate trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody or presence of a parent or legal guardian and living in one of the above situations

**Examples of Students Who ARE McKinney-Vento Eligible:**

- A student living in a homeless shelter
- A student who is evicted from their home and is staying temporarily with family/friends and is not on the lease
- A student in two-year transitional housing
- A student that is not currently staying with their legal guardian and doubled up with relatives (an unaccompanied youth)
- A family that is self-paying to stay in a motel or has received an emergency motel voucher from Denver Human Services

**Examples of Students Who are NOT McKinney-Vento Eligible:**

- A student in low-income, public or Section 8 housing
- A student who lives with another family but both sets of parents are on the lease or have a financial arrangement
- A student in foster care, group home or institution
- A student who lives with grandparents or friends that have legal guardianship to the student
ESSA Title Programs: McKinney-Vento Act

Enrollment Options for Students Experiencing Homelessness:

♦ Students experiencing homelessness have the right to remain in their schools of origin (i.e., the school the student attended when permanently housed or in which the student was last enrolled or attended if that is in the student’s best interest for the entire duration of homelessness or enroll in any public school that housed students living where the student is living are eligible to attend.

♦ Families can enroll immediately in neighborhood school to where they have their temporary housing. The DPS School Finder is used to determine this: https://dps.schoolmint.net/school-finder/home

♦ Families can participate in the Second Round School of Choice process through the August deadline. Please note that transportation is not provided to students who choice into a school. http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/schoolchoice-round-2/

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding McKinney-Vento:

♦ Can a student who is homeless enroll without records? (birth certificate, immunizations, proof of address) Answer: Yes. In fact, the McKinney-Vento law requires IMMEDIATE enrollment and full participation in school activities even if the student lacks required documents. Homeless Education Network (HEN) can assist the family in providing information on agencies that assist in obtaining documents. Denver Health School Based Health Centers can assist with immunization records and updates.

♦ When a student is in a homeless situation out of district, he/she must change schools. Answer: No. Individual determinations are made based on parent wishes, length of commute, age and educational needs. McKinney-Vento eligible students can remain in their school’s of origin (last school enrolled at or attended) the entire duration of homelessness and until the end of the academic year in which the student becomes permanently housed (even if homeless location is out of district). McKinney-Vento eligibility must be re-verified each school year by a DPS McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison. Transportation can be provided to school of origin.

♦ Homeless families can enroll in any DPS school they choose. Answer: No. Families can enroll in the attendance area Denver school assigned to where they are experiencing homelessness or remain at the school they were attending before loss of housing (school of origin). Students may also participate in the DPS School of Choice process (depending on the time of year). Please note that transportation is not provided in School of Choice situations.

♦ Our program can supply a McKinney-Vento Verification: Proof of Address Letter for enrollment purposes if needed.

To verify enrollment options for a student, please use the DPS School Finder link:
https://dps.schoolmint.net/school-finder/home
WHAT DOES THE HOMELESS EDUCATION NETWORK (HEN) DO?

WE FOCUS ON TWO MAIN AREAS: SCHOOL READINESS AND STUDENT SUCCESS

- Assistance with school enrollment and advocacy
- Backpack/school supplies
- Enrollment qualification to Free Lunch Services
- Assistance with school fees and fee waivers (under DPS Policy JQ)
- Clothing and uniform assistance
- Basic need and hygiene supplies
- Connecting to community resources
- School transportation (must meet district and McKinney-Vento guidelines)
- Help with McKinney-Vento dispute resolution

WE ARE UNABLE TO ASSIST WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Motel vouchers
- Direct Shelter placement - We can provide information but many agencies require families to call directly for intakes
- Payment of emergency bills

HOW TO CONTACT US:

For more information regarding the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act and HEN services, contact the McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison for your school or visit our website at http://childservices.dpsk12.org.

Regional McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaisons:

- Far Northeast Region Elm, K-8 and Middle Schools: Briana West 720.423.1983
- Southwest/Southeast Region Elm, K-8 and Middle Schools: Rebecca Romero 720.423.1986
- Central/Near Northeast Region Elm, K-8 and Middle Schools: Keya Flakes 720.423.1980
- Northwest Region Elm, K-8 and Middle Schools: Calvin Kuntzen 720.423.1984 (Hablo Español)
- DPS High Schools: Whitney Whitaker 720.423.1985
- Patricia Vaughan: School Counselor Lowry Elm. 720.423.5968
- Program Manager: Anna Theisen 720.423.1982  HEN Fax: 720.545.0425  Intake Line: 720.423.1980
## Community Resource List

### Birth Certificate and ID Assistance

Resource information or centers for families needing assistance in acquiring identification cards and/or birth verification documents for their children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Website</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLORADO COLLABORATIVE ID PROJECT</strong></td>
<td>303.837.1321</td>
<td>Interview new clients every Wednesday morning at 8:30am, bring any documents you already have for review. Space is limited, arrive early.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://coloradoidproject.wordpress.com/">https://coloradoidproject.wordpress.com/</a></td>
<td>1905 Sherman St. Suite 400, Denver, CO 80203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOLY GHOST CHURCH</strong></td>
<td>303.297.3411</td>
<td>Offers assistance with Birth Certificates, IDs, CBI and work tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.holyghostchurch.org/social-ministry.html">https://www.holyghostchurch.org/social-ministry.html</a></td>
<td>1900 California St., Denver, CO 80202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERFAITH FAMILY COMMUNITY SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>303.785.0501</td>
<td>Birth certificate only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.ifcs.org/need-help/">https://www.ifcs.org/need-help/</a></td>
<td>3370 South Irving St., Englewood, CO 80110</td>
<td>Must fill out intake form before receiving services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>METRO CARING</strong></td>
<td>303.860.7200</td>
<td>ID and Birth Certificate assistance available the first business day of month. For In-state: M-F 9:30am-3:00pm, no appointment needed. For out-of-state call 720-353-9466 Tuesdays at noon and leave voicemail with name, phone and state of birth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.metrocaring.org/get-help/">https://www.metrocaring.org/get-help/</a></td>
<td>1100 E. 18th Ave, Denver, CO 80218</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STOUT STREET CLINIC – COMMUNITY RESOURCES</strong></td>
<td>303.291.5178</td>
<td>Assistance with ID, Walk-in assistance available: M-Fri 8:30am, M-Th 12:45pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2111 Champa St., Denver, CO 80205</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE GIVE CENTER AT THE DENVER DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>720.944.4483</td>
<td>Will pay for Colorado ID or Colorado Birth Certificates if born in Colorado. M-Th 9:30am-12pm, 1:00-3:30pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 Federal Blvd. Denver, CO 80204</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birth Certificate Fee Payment Assistance: See also the program listing from 211 Colorado [https://211colorado.communityos.org/zf/taxonomy/detail/id/546245](https://211colorado.communityos.org/zf/taxonomy/detail/id/546245)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Website</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF DENVER (ACC)</strong> &lt;br&gt;<a href="https://www.acc-den.org/">https://www.acc-den.org/</a></td>
<td>303.399.4500 5250 Leetsdale Dr., Denver, CO 80246</td>
<td>ACC conducts educational and social service programs that help newcomers resettle in their new communities and acculturate, recover from past trauma, gain personal independence and economic self-sufficiency and quickly become productive, contributing members of American society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES (ROCKY MOUNTAINS)</strong> &lt;br&gt;<a href="https://www.lfsrm.org/programs-and-services/">https://www.lfsrm.org/programs-and-services/</a></td>
<td>303.980.5400 1600 Downing St. Suite 600, Denver, CO 80218</td>
<td>Provide programs for: Unintended pregnancy, family violence, child abuse and neglect, the impact of man-made and natural disasters, older adult isolation and the plight of refugees and documented immigrants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM (ACP)</strong> &lt;br&gt;<a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dcs/ACP">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dcs/ACP</a></td>
<td>303.866.2208 1001 E 62nd Ave., Denver, CO 80216</td>
<td>The ACP provides survivors of actual or threatened domestic violence, sexual offenses and/or stalking with a legal substitute address to use instead of their real address. The substitute address helps prevent abusers from locating survivors.  &lt;br&gt;See this FAQ for more information: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dcs/acp-faq">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dcs/acp-faq</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>