

Sacramento City Unified School District

**RIGHTS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE UNHOUSED**

Summary of rights under the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act: Education for Homeless Children & Youths (EHCY)  
Contact: Homeless-Services@scusd.edu / (916) 277-6892 or 395-4705 / www.scusd.edu/homeless-services

Students who are unhoused lack a fixed, regular, & adequate nighttime residence, including:

- A public/private place that is not designed for or normally used as a place for sleeping
- Motel/hotel, campground, or trailer due to loss of housing & lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- In an emergency or transitional shelter program
- Cars, parks/public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus/train stations, or similar
- Moved into another person's home due to loss of housing or financial problems (eviction, job loss, etc.)
- Unaccompanied Youth, runaways, abandoned children, and migratory children who live in the above conditions.

Unaccompanied Youth (UY) (youth not in the care or custody of their legal parent/guardian): The Homeless Program Coordinator will assist with enrollment, placement and dispute resolution.

**ENROLLMENT RIGHTS**

**SCHOOL SELECTION:** According to the student's best interest, the district must enroll, or continue the enrollment of, a student who is Unhoused. In determining best interest, the school shall, to the extent feasible, keep the student at their school of origin, unless it is against the wishes of the parent/guardian, caregiver, or Unaccompanied Youth (UY).

1. School of Origin: Continue the student at their *school of origin* for the duration of homelessness. This is the school attended when permanently housed, last enrolled, or attended within the last fifteen months.
2. Feeder School: If the student is transitioning between grade levels, the student may continue in the school district of origin in the same feeder school pattern (attendance area).
3. School of residence: The student may enroll in the public school serving the attendance area for the student's address, for which the student is eligible to attend.
4. If the student becomes permanently housed during the academic year:
  - K-8 grades: May continue in their school of origin for the remainder of the academic year
  - 9-12 grades: May continue in their school of origin through graduation.

**IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT:** The student shall be immediately enrolled even if missing the items below:

- Records normally required for enrollment, such as academic records, proof of residency, medical or immunization records, or other documents. *The enrolling site will issue the student a grace period or a Conditional Enrollment to submit the missing records.*
- Fees, fines, textbooks, equipment, uniforms, or other items or money due to any school.

**ENROLLMENT DISPUTES:** If there is a dispute over School Selection:

- The student must be immediately enrolled in the school under School Selection, that is selected by the parent/guardian, caregiver, or UY, for which the student is eligible to attend.
- If the dispute continues, *the student must be allowed to remain at the school until the dispute is resolved*, **and** the parent/guardian, caregiver, or UY must receive a written explanation, the right to appeal, and be referred to the Homeless Program Coordinator for dispute resolution.

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:** The student has the right to:

- Participate in activities that are available to all pupils, for which they are eligible: academic programs and services, enrichment programs, extracurricular activities, etc.
- Immediately meet residency requirements for interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities
- Receive free school meals and necessary transportation assistance to continue at school of origin.