Offering Enrollment Assistance

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Act protects a student’s rights to enroll in and attend school regardless of living situation. Students can enroll at the Welcome Center located in Midtown Square Mall in St. Cloud. If transportation to the Welcome Center is not available, families can contact one of the local transitional education liaisons listed below to enroll off-site.

The liaisons can also help with answering questions and obtaining needed school supplies.

Local Transitional Education Liaisons:

Jen Loch
320-370-8066
320-223-5370

Rebecca Groenewold
320-370-8059

Educational Support Services for Families Experiencing Homelessness and Transitional Housing

District 742 provides educational assistance for families living:
- In a shelter, motel, vehicle or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer or other inadequate space
- With friends or relatives due to inability to find affordable housing

Welcome Center

1201 2nd St S, Waite Park, MN 56387

Open: Monday through Friday
Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Phone: 320-370-8116
welcomecenter@isd742.org
Providing Transportation
- Assist families with district or city transportation to the student’s current school while homeless or in temporary housing
- Assist families with participating in school activities such as parent/teacher conferences, school meetings, athletics and evening performances

Offering a Variety of Support
- Assist with student enrollment and class registration
- Support parents with efforts to maintain current school placement throughout transition period
- Assist parents to remain involved in their child’s education
- Ensure students have access to all special programs and services that they are eligible to receive
- Identify funding for District 742 sponsored extracurricular activities
- Provide classroom consultation
- Assist with necessary school supplies

Honoring Student Rights
Under the McKinney-Vento Act, students have the right to:
- Enroll in school immediately and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents
- Attend school and continue in the school they attended prior to becoming homeless during the school year
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin
- Access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students
- Have enrollment disputes quickly addressed

FAQs
How can my child enroll in school if I don’t have any school records? Families can still enroll their children right away. The new school will contact prior schools for records. If records are not available, the new school will help to determine the appropriate placement.

What if I don’t have immunization or health records for my child? Families can still enroll their children right away. The new school will work with families to obtain these records or to get the necessary immunizations.

Does my child have to change schools every time we move? Changing schools may not be in the best interest of a student. Homeless students can remain at the same school even if they move out of the attendance area when it is in the best interest of the student. The school or your local liaisons will help to arrange transportation.