

EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The Governing Board desires to ensure that students experiencing homelessness have access to the same free and appropriate public education provided to other students within the district. The district shall provide students experiencing homelessness with access to education and other services necessary for them to meet the same challenging academic standards as other students.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify and remove any barriers to the identification and enrollment of students experiencing homelessness and to the retention of students experiencing homelessness due to absences or outstanding fees or fines. (42 USC 11432)

When there are at least 15 students experiencing homelessness in the district or a district school, the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) shall include goals and specific actions to improve student achievement and other outcomes of students experiencing homelessness. (Education Code 52052, 52060)

The Superintendent or designee shall designate an appropriate staff person to serve as a liaison for children experiencing homelessness and youths. The district liaison shall fulfill the duties specified in 42 USC 11432 to assist in identifying and supporting students experiencing homelessness to succeed in school.

In order to identify district students who are homeless, the Superintendent or designee may give a housing questionnaire to all parents/guardians during school registration, make referral forms readily available, include the district liaison's contact information on the district and school web sites, provide materials in a language easily understood by families and students, provide school staff with professional development on the definition and signs of homelessness, and contact appropriate local agencies to coordinate referrals for children experiencing homelessness and youth and unaccompanied youth.

Information about a student experiencing homelessness's living situation shall be considered part of a student's educational record, subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and shall not be deemed to be directory information as defined in 20 USC 1232g. (42 USC 11432)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for students experiencing homelessness are based on the student's best interest as defined in law and administrative regulation.

Each student experiencing homelessness shall be provided services that are comparable to services offered to other students in the school, including, but not limited to, transportation, educational programs for which the student meets the eligibility criteria (such as federal Title I services or similar state or local programs, programs for students with disabilities, and educational programs for English learners), career and technical education programs, programs for gifted and talented students, and school nutrition programs. (42 USC 11432)

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Students experiencing homelessness shall not be segregated into a separate school or program based on their status as homeless and shall not be stigmatized in any way. However, the Superintendent or designee may separate students experiencing homelessness on school grounds as necessary for short periods of time for health and safety emergencies or to provide temporary, special, and supplementary services to meet the unique needs of students experiencing homelessness. (42 USC 11432, 11433)

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate with other agencies and entities to ensure that children experiencing homelessness and youth are promptly identified, ensure that students experiencing homelessness have access to and are in reasonable proximity to available education and related support services, and raise the awareness of school personnel and service providers of the effects of short-term stays in a shelter and other challenges associated with homelessness. Toward these ends, the Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local social services agencies, other agencies or entities providing services to children experiencing homelessness and youth, and, if applicable, transitional housing facilities. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate transportation, transfer of school records, and other interdistrict activities with other local educational agencies. As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate, within the district and with other involved local educational agencies, services for students experiencing homelessness and services for students with disabilities. (42 USC 11432)

District liaisons and other appropriate staff shall participate in professional development and other technical assistance activities to assist them in identifying and meeting the needs of students experiencing homelessness and to provide training on the definitions of terms related to homelessness. (42 USC 11432)

At least annually, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board on outcomes for students experiencing homelessness, which may include, but are not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade level, graduation rates, suspension/expulsion rates, and other outcomes related to any goals and specific actions identified in the LCAP. Based on the evaluation data, the district shall revise its strategies as needed to better support the education of students experiencing homelessness.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State Resources

5 CCR 4600-4670
Ed. Code 39807.5
Ed. Code 48850

Description

Uniform complaint procedures
Payment of transportation costs by parents
Participation of students experiencing homelessness and foster youth in extracurricular activities and interscholastic sports

EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (continued)**State Resources** (continued)

Ed. Code 48852.5

Ed. Code 48852.7

Ed. Code 48915.5

Ed. Code 48918.1

Ed. Code 51225.1-51225.3

Ed. Code 52052

Ed. Code 52060-52077

Description

Notice of educational rights of students experiencing homelessness

Education of students experiencing homelessness; immediate enrollment

Recommended expulsion, homeless student with disabilities

Notice of recommended expulsion

Graduation requirements

Accountability; numerically significant student subgroups

Local control and accountability plan

Federal Resources

20 USC 1087vv

20 USC 1232g

20 USC 6311

42 USC 11431-11435

42 USC 12705

Description

Free Application for Federal Student Aid; definitions Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974

State plan

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; state and local strategies

Management Resources

California Child Welfare Council

California Department of Education Publication

National Center for Homeless Education Publication

U.S. Department of Education Guidance

Website

Website

Website

Website

Website

Description

Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations

Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Process, January 30, 2007

Homeless Liaison Toolkit, 2013 U.S. Department of Education Guidance Dear Colleague Letter, July 27, 2016

Education for Children experiencing homelessness and Youths Program, Non-Regulatory Guidance, July 2016

California Department of Education, Children experiencing homelessness and Youth Education

National Center for Homeless Education at SERVE

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

U.S. Department of Education - Education for Children experiencing homelessness and Youths

Grants for State and Local Activities

California Child Welfare Council

Cross References

0410

0415

0460

0470

0500

1113

1312.3

1400

Description

Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities Equity

Local Control And Accountability Plan

COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

Accountability

District And School Web Sites

Uniform Complaint Procedures

Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools

EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (continued)**Cross References** (continued)

	Description
3250	Transportation Fees
3260	Fees And Charges
3515.4	Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage
3541	Transportation Routes And Services
3550	Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
3553	Free And Reduced Price Meals
4131	Staff Development
4231	Staff Development
4331	Staff Development
5111	Admission
5111.1	District Residency
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5125	Student Records
5125.1	Release Of Directory Information
5125.2	Withholding Grades, Diploma Or Transcripts
5132	Dress And Grooming
5141.26	Tuberculosis Testing
5141.31	Immunizations
5141.32	Health Screening For School Entry
5141.6	School Health Services
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.2	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)
5145.6	Parental Notifications
5148.2	Before/After School Programs
5148.3	Preschool/Early Childhood Education
6011	Academic Standards
6143	Courses Of Study
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6146.1	High School Graduation Requirements
6146.3	Reciprocity Of Academic Credit
6159	Individualized Education Program
6159.1	Procedural Safeguards And Complaints For Special Education
6159.3	Appointment Of Surrogate Parent For Special Education Students
6162.51	State Academic Achievement Tests
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services
6171	Title I Programs
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6174	Education For English Learners
6177	Summer Learning Programs
6178	Career Technical Education
6179	Supplemental Instruction
6190	Evaluation Of The Instructional Program

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