
Homeless Students

Homeless Student Liaison

The liaison appointed by the superintendent shall work to identify homeless children and facilitate each homeless child's access to and success in school. By October 1 of each year, the liaison shall report the number of homeless students enrolled in the school district to the Colorado Department of Education.

The primary functions of the liaison shall be to mediate disputes concerning school enrollment, assist in making transportation arrangements, assist in requesting the student's records, provide information and give referrals on services and opportunities, and assist any homeless child who is not in the custody of a parent or guardian with enrollment decisions.

Enrollment

A homeless student is deemed to reside, and may enroll and attend school in:

- the district where the child is presently located, or
- the district in which the student attended school previous to becoming homeless.

Enrollment shall be immediate even if the student lacks records routinely required prior to enrollment. The school shall make arrangements to obtain any necessary records and to have the student receive any necessary immunizations. When feasible the district shall seek immunization through no- or low-cost health care providers. If an expense is incurred, the district shall seek reimbursement through Medicaid if possible.

If a homeless student becomes permanently housed outside the district during the school year, the student shall no longer be considered homeless and may only continue enrollment in the district for the remainder of the school year.

Tuition

Students defined in state and federal law as homeless children shall be admitted without payment of tuition.

Notice of Determination and Appeal

The Superintendent (or designee) shall hand deliver to the student a written notice of the District's determination and of the right to appeal, and provide a copy to the liaison. If the Superintendent or designee determines that the homeless student shall attend a school other than the student's previous school or a school other than the one requested by the student's parent or guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall also provide written explanation regarding that decision to the parent/guardian and provide a copy to the liaison.

Enrollment Disputes

If an enrollment dispute arises between the student's custodial parent/guardian (or the student not in custody of a parent/guardian) and the District, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school selected by the parent/guardian or student until the dispute is resolved.

The parent/guardian (or student, if applicable) may appeal an enrollment determination made by this District to the District's homeless student liaison within seven days after receiving the written determination and notice of right-to-appeal.

The liaison shall issue a written decision on the dispute within seven days of the receipt of the appeal. The liaison will hand deliver to the parent/guardian (or student, if applicable) the written decision and notice of right-to-appeal to the Board of Education.

Within seven days of delivery of the liaison's decision and right-to-appeal notice, the parent/guardian (or

student, if applicable) may appeal the decision to the Board of Education.

The Board shall issue a written decision on the dispute within fourteen days of the receipt of the appeal and hand deliver to the parent/guardian (or student, if applicable) the written decision and notice of right-to-appeal to the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youths. The decision of the State Coordinator shall be final.

Transportation

Subsequent to a determination that the student shall attend a school in this district, a request for transportation may be made by the student, or by the student's custodial parent/guardian.

If the student is located in the district, the district shall provide or arrange for the student's transportation to and from school in accordance with district transportation policies. All transportation services shall be comparable to those provided for other students in the district.

If the student is located outside of the district but a determination has been made that the student shall attend school in the district, both this district and the district where the student is located must either agree on a method to apportion cost and responsibility for the student's transportation or share the cost and responsibility equally.

ADOPTED: September 18, 2007