



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (EHCY) PROGRAM  
Reauthorized in 2002 as Title X, Part C, of the Elementary and  
Secondary Education Act of 2001**

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- **Ensure Compliance with Federal Law in all LEAs and Charter Schools**
- **Conduct, Oversee and Monitor Subgrant Program**
- **Monitor all LEAs and Charter Schools**
- **Technical Assistance to Districts**
- **Oversee Federal Data Collection**
- **Training**
- **Forums and State Meetings**
- **Policy Review and Development**
- **Collaboration with SBE and Community**

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- **Technical assistance on the McKinney-Vento Act Data collection**
- **Monitoring notifications**
- **Forums for Liaisons**
- **Homeless Learning Institutes**

**NCHPEP Website**  
[www.serve.org/hepnc](http://www.serve.org/hepnc)

**NCHE**  
[www.serve.org/nche](http://www.serve.org/nche)

- **Monitoring Schedule**
- **Compliance Meeting Information**
- **District Highlights**
- **Best Practices**
- **Homeless Liaison Information (LEA's & Charter)**
- **McKinney-Vento Act and 2004 Guidance**
- **Parent / Unaccompanied Youth Resources**
- **Conferences**
- **Training Materials and requests**
- **Program updates**

**Homeless Children and Youth Enrolled in North Carolina Schools 2006-2012**

<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
12,659	16,947	18,815	23,100	25,694	27,802	Projecting 28,000+

### Local Liaisons

A list of every school district and charter schools homeless liaison can be viewed at [http://center.serve.org/hepnc/nc\\_pol.php](http://center.serve.org/hepnc/nc_pol.php)

Local liaison responsibilities include:

1. Identifying
2. Immediate Enrollment
3. Informing parents, guardians, or youth of educational rights
4. Supporting unaccompanied youth in school selection and dispute resolution
5. Linking homeless students with educational and other services
6. Ensuring the public posting of educational rights through the school district and community
7. Ensuring that disputes are resolved promptly
8. Collaborating with other district programs and community agencies

### School Selection

Students experiencing homelessness have the right to attend one of two schools:

- Local Attendance Area School
  - School of Origin
    - The school attended when permanently housed; or
    - The school in which the student was last enrolled
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- For school selection, a “best interest” determination must occur
  - Best interest: keep homeless students in their schools of origin, to the extent feasible, unless this is against the parent’s or guardian’s wishes
  - Students can continue attending their school of origin the entire time they are homeless, and until the end of any school year in which they move into permanent housing
  - If a student becomes homeless in between school years, he or she can continue attending the school of origin for the following school year
  - States and districts must develop, review, and revise policies to remove barriers
  - Enrollment is attending classes and participating fully in school activities
  - The McKinney-Vento Act supersedes state or local law or practice when there is a conflict
  - Homeless children and youth have the right to enroll in school immediately
  - If a student does not have immunizations, or immunization or medical records, the local liaison must assist immediately in obtaining them

### Transportation

- Districts must transport homeless students to and from the school of origin
- If the student is living outside the district of origin, the district where the student is living and the district of origin must determine how to divide the responsibility and cost
- Districts must provide students in homeless situations with transportation services
- Districts can consider other safe transportation options beyond the school bus

### Unaccompanied Youth

- The McKinney-Vento Act defines unaccompanied youth as a youth “not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian”.
- An unaccompanied youth’s living arrangement must meet the Act’s definition of homeless for him/her to qualify
- Local liaisons must support unaccompanied youth in school selection and dispute resolution process
- Age limits”
  - ⊙ Lower: There is no lower age limit for unaccompanied youth
  - ⊙ Upper: The upper age limit (*as with all McKinney-Vento eligible students*) is your state’s upper age limit for public education
- A youth can be eligible regardless of whether he/she was asked to leave the home or “chose” to leave; sometimes there is “more than meets the eye” for youth’s home life situations