



## NATIONAL LAW CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

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### **Effective October 1: New Law on School Access for Homeless Children and Youth—Updated FAQ Now Available!**

**Washington, D.C.** - New federal laws and guidance, effective October 1, expand access to early childhood education programs, improve identification, and help homeless youth better prepare for college.

The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 made numerous amendments to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. These changes, along with recently-issued Non-Regulatory Guidance and financial aid policies from the U.S. Department of Education, and new Head Start Performance Standards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, expand educational access for students experiencing homelessness.

“The new law and guidance are designed to make a real difference in the lives of the 1.4 million school-aged children experiencing homelessness in the United States by giving them access to stable schooling and learning opportunities,” explained Maria Foscarinis, Executive Director of the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, and one of the original architects of the 1987 McKinney Act.

To assist families, youth, and school personnel to implement these changes, the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) and the Law Center are pleased to announce the eagerly anticipated update to “The Most Frequently Asked Questions on the Education Rights of Children and Youth in Homeless Situations.”

The revised FAQ resource covers a wide spectrum of education issues concerning homeless children and youth, from child care and early education services to higher education policies. “This resource provides information and tools to assist parents, youth, liaisons, administrators, school personnel, and advocates in understanding the McKinney-Vento Act and other education-related laws and policies,” stated Barbara Duffield, Director of Policy and Programs at NAEHCY, and leading advocate for homelessness-related amendments to the Every Student Succeeds Act and No Child Left Behind Act.

To download the publication, please click [HERE](#).

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*The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) is a national membership association dedicated to educational excellence for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Our members work in early childhood programs, public schools, state departments of education, and community organizations to support the identification, enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth, from early childhood through post-secondary education.*

*The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty ([www.nlchp.org](http://www.nlchp.org)) is the only national organization dedicated solely to using the power of the law to prevent and end homelessness. With the support of a large network of pro bono lawyers, we address the immediate and long-term needs of people who are homeless or at risk through outreach and training, advocacy, impact litigation, and public education.*