

Every Student Succeeds Act Overview: Title VII, Part B, Education for Homeless Children and Youth

PURPOSE

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is authorized under Title VII, Part B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) (McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act was most recently re-authorized in December 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The McKinney-Vento Act is designed to address the challenges that homeless children and youths have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

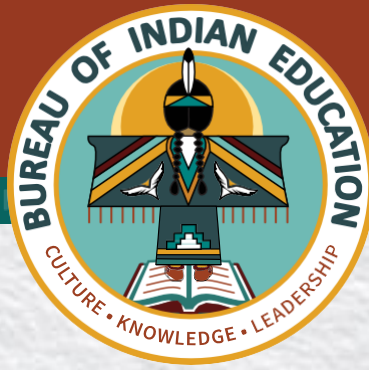
Bureau of Indian Education Agency Plan

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) supports LEAs by providing support through annual trainings, professional development, and guidance documents. BIE also prepares and disseminates sample policies, resources, and notices summarizing the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program requirements and shares McKinney-Vento guidance provided by the US Department of Education and National Technical Assistance Provider.

Identification of homeless children and youth will be the primary responsibility of local educational agencies/schools, using the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by ESSA definition of homelessness). Upon identification and enrollment, local educational agencies/schools will include assessment of the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness in their local comprehensive needs assessment.

The BIE Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program has established a dispute resolution process with the purpose of providing an opportunity for the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth to dispute a local educational agency decision on eligibility, school selection, or enrollment. The process ensures a prompt resolution with a full timeline of review and delivery of decision within 7 business days.

Enrollment, transportation, or services cannot be delayed prior to or during dispute resolution and such enrollment, transportation or services shall be provided until the conclusion of dispute resolution.



BIE provides ongoing training to all Education Resource Center staff and school personnel on the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program, to heighten the awareness of children and youth and runaways experiencing homelessness. These training opportunities include in-person meetings, phone conference calls, webinars, and national conference opportunities. Resources are also provided on the BIE NATIVE Star portal.

Barriers will be identified through findings from on-site and desk monitoring, analysis of identification collected in the NASIS system, and barriers brought to the attention of the BIE State Coordinator. BIE provides training and technical assistance which includes reviewing McKinney-Vento provisions for removal of barriers for children and youth experiencing homelessness.

The BIE will establish a team consisting of experienced Homeless Liaisons who will assist with the development of draft policies ensuring all barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youth are removed. The draft policies will then be amended and/or adopted by local educational agencies.

For more information, visit the [BIE Agency Plan](#) of the BIE website.