

File: JECAA

ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Board believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to admission in the District schools and equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the District must enroll each homeless student in the District in the school determined to be in the student's best interest. A homeless student or individual is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

1. a supervised, publicly- or privately-operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
2. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized or
3. a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

In compliance with the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, the District must enroll a homeless student in either:

1. the school of origin for the remainder of the academic year or, if the student becomes homeless between academic years, for the following academic year or
2. the school which he/she would attend if he/she were a resident of the District.

The Board ensures that:

1. it reviews and revises Board policies and regulations to eliminate barriers to the enrollment, retention and success in school of homeless students;
2. it appoints a District liaison who ensures that homeless students enroll and succeed in school and
3. homeless students are provided with transportation services that are at least comparable to the service provided to nonhomeless students.

If the District receives sub grants to implement this policy, the liaison ensures compliance with the sub grant and coordinates services for homeless students with local social service agencies and programs, including those funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.

To the extent feasible, the District complies with the request made by a parent(s) regarding school placement regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parent(s) or is temporarily residing elsewhere.

A student who ceases to be homeless may continue to receive services until the end of the period of time for which the service was originally intended to be provided, which may be the end of the school year or the end of a program cycle.

The District complies with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan Ohio and Federal law for the education of homeless children and youth.

[Adoption date: December 17, 2001]

LEGAL REF.: 42 USC 11431 et seq.

CROSS REF.: AC, Nondiscrimination