



TAOS INTEGRATED SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

III-A.02: Educational Plan

McKinney Vento Act

Taos Integrated School of the Arts is committed to ensuring that the educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness have full and equal access to an appropriate education so that they may experience success in school.

Taos Integrated School of the Art's process of how the notice of rights/contact information specific to McKinney Vento is disseminated to the school community/public is as follows:

- A hard copy of notice of rights/ contact information identifying McKinney Vento liaison is provided to the school community.
- Contact information is posted in general areas: Office, Multipurpose and public bulletin board.
- A copy of above information is also provided through email.

Please refer to documents attached.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is reauthorized by Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act. This legislation ensures the educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness and provides for equal access to an appropriate education so that they may experience success in school.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESS

Q: Is my family considered homeless?

A: If any of the following statements are true, you are considered homeless:

You live in a shelter or transitional housing program.

You live in a car, park, abandoned building or a place where people normally do not live.

You live in a trailer park or camping area because you have nowhere else to go.

You live with another family because you've lost your housing due to financial issues.

You live in a special home for pregnant or parenting teens because there is nowhere else to go.

You are a child waiting to be placed in foster care (in limited situations).

You are a runaway youth or migratory child living in any of the above situations.

Q: Are all doubled up families considered homeless?

A: No. Families who temporarily reside with another family due to loss of housing or economic hardship may qualify as homeless. However, families who choose to combine their income to pay rent or who live with family members due to cultural practices are not considered homeless.

Q: I have a job. Is my family still considered homeless?

A: Homelessness refers to your living situation, not your employment status. If you work, but do not make enough to afford adequate and stable housing, then you are considered homeless.

Q: I pay rent where I'm staying. Can I still be considered homeless?

A: Some families pay to live in motels, transitional housing or in a spare room.

These places are meant to serve as temporary living accommodations. If you are in this type of temporary situation, then your family is considered homeless.

Q: Do I still qualify for services if I have income?

A: Yes. The McKinney-Vento definition of homeless is based solely on your living situation, not your income.

Q: We are staying in a domestic violence shelter. Are we considered homeless?

A: Yes. This is a temporary living situation and therefore meets the definition of homeless.

Q: How long can I be considered homeless?

A: There is no time limit on homelessness. You can remain homeless for several years if you are not able to secure permanent housing. Families can also come "in" and "out" of homelessness.

Q: I have been staying in my car, so my child has been temporarily staying with my sister.

Is my child considered homeless?

A: Yes. If your child is temporarily staying with another adult that is not the parent or guardian because you are in a homeless situation, then your child is considered homeless as well.

Q: We are about to lose our housing in a few weeks. Can we receive services from your program?

A: No. A student must meet the federal definition of homeless to qualify for services and protections mandated under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

For more information or to request specific support for a homeless student contact

Ms. Linda Seto
TISA
Homeless Education Liaison
575-758-7755
Linda@tisataos.org

Rich Greywolf
Program Coordinator for McKinney-Vento
rgreywolf@tisataos.org
PO Box 668
Taos, NM 87571

If you believe that you meet the McKinney Vento criteria defined above, please sign below

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____
Student Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

118 Toalne Street P.O. Box 668 Taos, NM 87571 (575) 758-7755 (575) 758-7766 Fax