

Wickenburg Unified School District #9
Rights of McKinney-Vento Eligible Students & Families

If your living arrangement is both temporary and the result of economic hardship, you may qualify for services under the McKinney-Vento Act. The purpose of this law is to provide academic stability for students of families in transition.

You may want to talk with the Wickenburg Unified School District Homeless Liaison or your child's school counselor if your family's living arrangements is any of the following:

- You are living with friends or relatives, or moving from place to place, due to economic hardship
 - You are living in a shelter or a motel
 - You are living in substandard housing possibly without water or electricity
 - You are living in a place not considered traditional "housing," such as a car, or a campground
- * A student may also qualify as an unaccompanied youth if he or she is living with someone who is not a parent or guardian, or if he or she is moving from place to place without parent or guardian. This includes runaways and students who can't return home due to violence in the household.

Children who qualify under McKinney-Vento have the right to:

- Attend the school they were last enrolled at the time of instability in the family's living situation, even if that school is in another district. The choice must be a reasonable one that is in the best interest of the children involved. Check with the Homeless Liaison for additional information
- Receive assistance with transportation to attend school while they are being temporarily housed, if requested by the family and found feasible by the district.
- Start school immediately while school personnel assist families with obtaining school and immunization records or other documents necessary for enrollment.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other children or youths served in these programs – Title 1, ELL, Special Ed., etc.
- Receive free breakfast and lunch.

Determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis. If you are eligible for assistance as described in the McKinney-Vento Act, you will be notified by your school counselor. If you do not qualify, you will receive written notice and receive directions regarding the dispute process.

If you have questions, call Allison Pacheco at 928-684-6700

or email her at apacheco@wickenburg.k12.az.us