

DEFINITION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The District shall make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children and youth within the District, shall encourage their enrollment in school, shall eliminate existing barriers in District policies and procedures which may serve as barriers to their enrollment, and shall ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free public education, including public preschool education, as is provided to other children and youth.

Definitions.

"Homeless children and youth" means individuals from age three through age 21 who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth who are:

- sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- abandoned in hospitals;
- awaiting foster care placement;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings;
- children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described in this definition.

Incarcerated children and youth AND children and youth in foster care are not considered homeless.

"School of origin" means the school that the homeless child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the homeless child or youth was last enrolled.

"Unaccompanied youth" means a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including youth living in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, cars, on the streets or in other inadequate housing, youth denied housing by their families, and school-aged unwed mothers, living in house for unwed mothers, who have no other housing available.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

DATE OF ADOPTION: December 15, 2006

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MAQUOKETA VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DELHI, IOWA 52223