

CHECKLIST FOR MCKINNEY-VENTO SCHOOL CHOICE CONSIDERATIONS: SCHOOL OF ORIGIN OR LOCAL ATTENDANCE ZONE?

School of Origin Considerations

- Continuity of instruction
Student is best served due to circumstances that look to his or her past
- Age and grade placement of the student
Maintaining friends and contacts with peers is critical to the student's meaningful school experience and participation; the student has been in this environment for an extended period time
- Distance of the commute and its impact on the student's education or special needs
A lengthy commute may affect the student's concentration, attitude, or readiness for school; the advantages of the school environment outweigh the disadvantages introduced by the commute
- Personal safety of the student
The school of origin has advantages for the safety of the student
- Student's need for special instruction, such as Section 504 or special education and related services can be better met
- Length of anticipated stay in a temporary shelter or other temporary location
The student's current living situation is outside of the school-of-origin attendance zone but his living situation or location continues to be uncertain; the student will benefit from the continuity offered by attending school in the same location
- Likely area of the family's or youth's future housing
Location of future housing is uncertain, could be in any number of communities
- Time remaining in the school year
There is only a short time left in the school year
- School placement of siblings
Other siblings are attending this same campus/district

Local Attendance Zone Considerations

- Continuity of instruction
Student is best served due to circumstances that look to his or her future
- Age and grade placement of the student
Maintaining friends and contacts with peers in the school of origin is not particularly critical to the student's meaningful school experience and participation; student has been in the new school of origin for only a brief time
- Distance of the commute and its impact on the student's education or special needs
A shorter commute may help the student's concentration, attitude, or readiness for school; the local attendance zone school can all of the necessary educational and special needs resources for the student
- Personal safety of the student
The local attendance zone school has advantages for the safety of the student
- Student's need for special instruction, such as Section 504 or special education and related services can be better met
- Length of anticipated stay in a temporary shelter or other temporary location
The student's current living situation is within the school attendance zone and his living situation appears more stable and less likely to change suddenly; the student will benefit from the developing relationships with peers in school who live in his immediate community
- Likely area of the family's or youth's future housing
Location of future housing is uncertain, but could very well be in this community
- Time remaining in the school year
There is considerable time left in the school year
- School placement of siblings
No other siblings are attending the school-of-origin campus; other siblings are attending the school-of-origin campus/district but there is nothing to keep them from changing schools

School of Origin (continued)

- Student must meet all of the attendance criteria for school
Tardiness or absences are likely to become a problem because the student may miss the school bus or other transportation provided by the district due to inconvenient pick-up times in order to accommodate the distances/time needed to get to school; students experiencing homelessness are not exempt from the regular student provisions pertaining to tardiness or absences, and transportation provided through alternative means may not be reliable
- Student's participation in after-school tutoring or extra-curricular activities
School district's are not obligated to provide transportation home from after-school activities, so a student dependent upon school transportation may not be able to participate fully in these activities; some schools require students who are performing below standard to participate in after-school tutoring in order to be assured of promotion and other educational benefits; student does not plan to participate in any after-school activities
- Parent is able to participate in parent-teacher organizations and in conferences with teachers to address their student's needs
Distance to school and access to transportation may or may not hinder a parent's ability to fully participate in the educational environment and experiences of the student; limited access to teachers and school activities could lessen the school experience for the student; distance to school could make this a difficult obstacle
- Administration of medicines or special care to students; access to parents in case of illness
Parents must decide if they will be able to meet the school requirements for dealing with the administration of medicines to a student or for picking up a student from school who is ill
- Other considerations:

Local Attendance Zone (continued)

- Student must meet all of the attendance criteria for school
Tardiness and absences are likely to be minimal because of the travel times required to get to school as a result of the location of the school; pick-up times for the school bus are more convenient because of the proximity of the school.
- Student's participation in after-school tutoring or extra-curricular activities
Students proximity to the school will be less likely to impact on participation in after-school tutoring and extracurricular activities; student is more likely to participate in required after-school activities that could affect promotion or other educational benefits
- Parent is able to participate fully in parent-teacher organizations and in conferences with teachers to address their student's needs
Distance to school access to transportation may or may not hinder a parent's ability to fully participate in the educational environment and experiences of the student; limited access to teachers and school activities could lessen the school experience for the student; proximity to school could lessen this obstacle
- Administration of medicines or special care to students; access to parents in case of illness
Proximity of school may make it easier to meet the school requirements for dealing with the administration of medicines to a student or for picking up a student from school who is ill
- Other considerations:

