



COVID-19 Tool

Supporting Students Living in Motels and Hotels

Students experiencing homelessness are significantly more at risk of losing services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students and families who live in hotels and motels are often the hardest with which to maintain communication. Listed below are some strategies and best practices for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to support these students.

- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should develop tools for school staff (e.g. teachers, counselors, social workers, etc.) to assess the following:
 - Change in housing status
 - Student safety at home
 - Number of people in the home
 - Academic and social services needed
- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should utilize information-sharing systems to:
 - Share student contact information for identified McKinney-Vento eligible students
 - Facilitate prompt identification and services for newly identified students
 - Communicate student safety concerns
 - Disseminate LEA and homeless education program information and resources
 - Address academic interventions needed (e.g. additional course work materials, supplies, flexible coursework deadlines, etc.)
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should provide McKinney-Vento Posters (digital format can be accessed on the [TEHCY COVID-19 Resource page](#)) via email to local hotel and motel staff. Homeless Liaisons should work with motel and hotel staff to ensure posters are placed strategically (e.g. laundromat area, community information boards, etc.) so that students and parents can easily access this information.
- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should establish strong communication channels with community partners, hotel, and motel staff to disseminate LEA and homeless education program information, resources, and supplies.
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should consider LEA approved social media channels (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) and non-traditional methods of communication (e.g. LEA hotline, Google Voice, meal and technology distributions, etc.) to maintain communication students and families.
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should communicate to students and families that they can remain in the school of origin if they move outside of their attendance zone.
- ✓ LEAs should ensure policies regarding privacy and sharing of personal information of students and families experiencing homelessness are in place and have been provided to all LEA staff. For more information, please visit: [FERPA FAQ](#)