



COVID-19 Tool

Supporting Students Living in Shelters

Students experiencing homelessness are significantly more at risk of losing services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Listed below are some strategies and best practices for LEAs to support students living in shelters.

- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should develop information-sharing systems with shelter staff to assist in the following:
 - Completion of a Student Residency Questionnaire (SRQ)
 - Date of entry and exit from shelter
 - LEA technology paperwork, distribution sites, and hours
 - Current or updated contact information
 - Student and family updates, concerns, academic and basic needs
 - LEA meal site information
- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with shelter staff, should ensure safety protocols are established for dissemination of technology, packet coursework, food, and other supplies.
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should provide online McKinney-Vento training to shelter staff.
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should provide McKinney-Vento Posters (digital format can be accessed on the [TEHCY COVID-19 Resource page](#)) via email to local shelters. Homeless Liaisons should work closely with shelter staff to ensure posters are placed strategically throughout the shelter.
- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should provide shelter staff any curriculum resources and supports available for students and families.
- ✓ LEAs, in collaboration with their homeless liaison, should utilize information-sharing systems with shelter staff to communicate:
 - Instructional challenges
 - Progress monitoring
 - LEA and homeless education program information and resources
 - Academic interventions needed (e.g. additional course work materials, supplies, flexible coursework deadlines, etc.)
- ✓ Homeless Liaisons should collaborate with shelter staff to communicate when students and families will exit the shelter. Homeless Liaisons should work with shelter staff to communicate to students and families that they can remain in the school of origin if they will be moving outside of the 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](#)