



SOS

Serving our Students
Through
MV and SCNSCF
2020-2021



SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS



SOS



2 SOS Programs are available to serve homeless
and needy Shelby County Students

**Shelby County
McKinney-Vento Homeless
Education Program**

Funded through Title IX,
Federal Funds

**Shelby County Needy School
Children's Fund**

Funded through yearly grant
from United Way of Central
Alabama

McKinney Vento Homeless Education Act (Title IX)

Who is eligible for McKinney-Vento Funds?

Any student who lacks a fixed,
regular, and adequate nighttime
residence



How is MV Eligibility Determined?

Counselors and Registrars are the **front line** in determining eligibility, but classroom teachers are often the first to see the needs of homeless and needy students. Always check with your counselor and/or registrar first if you think a student might be homeless.

Ask: Can the student go to the **SAME PLACE** (fixed) **EVERY NIGHT** (regular) to sleep in a **SAFE AND SUFFICIENT SPACE** (adequate)?



Just not sure? Call Beth!



Eligibility Criteria

- Doubled Up- sharing the house with others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason (families who are doubled up for mutual benefit are NOT homeless)
- Living in motels, hotels, campgrounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional housing
- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live (car, abandoned building, bus or similar settings)
- Migratory children living in any of the above circumstances
- Unaccompanied youth- child or youth who meets the above and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian (no age limit)





School Assignment



The **School of Origin** is defined as the school that the student attended when permanently housed and/or the school where the student was last enrolled. Note: This also includes Pre-K and designated receiving school at the next grade level feeder pattern school.

School of Local Attendance is the public school that the student last attended in the area (i.e. neighborhood, public school)

The fine print.....

- Districts must provide transportation to and from school at the parent's/guardian's' request if outside regular bus zones.
- Schools should work to accommodate parents' and students' requests, BUT assignments will be made based on the BEST INTERESTS of the student.

What if there is a dispute?

Shelby County Schools has a formal dispute process (based on the dispute process outlined by ALSDE).

Contact district liaison (Beth) immediately in case of possible dispute.

Parents and guardians **must** be informed of their rights and the appeal process.

Students **MUST** be immediately enrolled *regardless* of dispute.



Homelessness Often Follows Other Traumas

- Foreclosure
- Divorce
- Domestic Violence
- Death or Illness
- Incarceration



Look for to indicate Homelessness

- Reports of crowded living conditions
- Panic attacks in class
- Chronic hunger or food-hoarding behaviors
- Frequent sleepiness in class
- Unkempt clothing
- Inadequate personal hygiene

Homelessness Distress Effects

- Nightmares
- Emotional Numbing
- Difficulty concentrating
- Sleep and eating disorders
- Struggle to maintain emotional control



What teachers need to know

Information about which students are eligible for McKinney-Vento is CONFIDENTIAL. However, school Counselors should notify classroom teachers of the students on their roles who are homeless. As new students are added the Federal Programs department (i.e. Beth Fuller and Lindsay Brand) will try to notify homeroom teachers as well.

Students who are eligible for McKinney-Vento can receive assistance with school fees, clothing, field trips, additional tutoring and in some cases assistance with extracurriculars. **If you wonder if a need is covered, don't hesitate to email Beth (bfuller@shelbyed.org).**

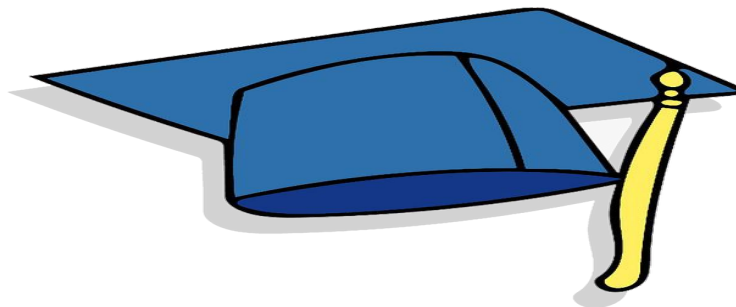


Every Student Succeeds Act ESSA

Homeless students are a subgroup and are a part of accountability.

Schools are **required** to help these students with FAFSA and college applications.

Make sure that students (and parents) are aware that most universities and colleges have food pantries and other supports to help homeless students.



Shelby County Needy School Children's Fund

- This is a competitive grant from United Way of Alabama: ***Central Alabama Children's Fund***
- Last year Shelby County Schools received \$12,000.
- SCNSCF will serve children in Shelby County Schools who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch.
- Counselors, Administrators, Teachers and parents bring the needs of eligible students to the attention of the school counselor, who acts as a liaison with the Needy Children's fund liaison (i.e. Beth Fuller).

Shelby County Needy School Children's Fund

The services provided are:

- Counseling
- Dental
- Medical, including medicine as needed
- Vision
- Clothing
- School supplies/Fees/Field Trips/Tutoring