



McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Policy

In accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes, Strong Start Academy has identified the school's Safe School Professional, as the liaison for homeless students, to coordinate with local social service agencies, homeless service providers, and other programs to assist homeless children and their families. Additionally, the Safe School Professional will ensure that homeless children at Strong Start Academy are provided with equal access to educational programs, have an opportunity to meet the same challenging state of Nevada academic standards, are not segregated on the basis of their status as homeless, and are protected from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness.

Definition of Homeless Children and Youth

Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (*per Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act*) defines homeless as follows:

The term "homeless children and youths"--

(A) Means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and

(B) Includes--

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;

(ii) children and youths 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 (within the meaning of section

103(a)(2)(c));

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

Homeless status is determined in cooperation with the parents, and in the case of unaccompanied youth status will be determined by the local educational agency liaison and the district/school liaison.

Supporting Children Experiencing Homelessness

- Strong Start will immediately enroll children experiencing homelessness with or without academic and non-academic student information/records.
- Strong Start will support students with uniforms, RTC bus passes, and other situational academic needs.
- Strong Start will establish multiple modes of communication with the families experiencing homelessness.

Comparable Services

Each homeless child shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in school such as:

- Educational services for which the child meets eligibility criteria such as ESL or special education programs
- Programs for gifted and talented students
- Title I services
- Before and After school programs
- Access to a Safe Schools Professional
- Timely release of student records upon request