



# Meskwaki Settlement School



Success for All...Working Together

## Education for Homeless Children and Youth

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and re-authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of December 2015. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law that governs the education of homeless children. This law provides many rights to homeless children and their families and identifies many responsibilities for schools.

### Homeless Child/Youth

Students considered homeless must have access to educational and other services needed to ensure success in school. A homeless child or youth is any child ages 3-21 who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes one or more of the following:

- A child who is sharing the housing of others (includes doubled-up families) due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; is living in a motel, hotel, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; is living in an emergency or transitional shelter; is abandoned in a hospital;
- A child who has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans;
- A child who is living in a car, park, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting; and/or
- A migratory child/youth who qualifies as homeless because of the living circumstances described above, including youth who have runaway or youth being forced to leave home.

### Rights

Homeless children and youth have the right to:

- Go to school, no matter where you live or how long you have lived there.
- Receive access to the same public education, including preschool education, provided to other children.
- Continue in the school they attended before becoming homeless or the school they last attended, if that is the choice and feasible.
- Receive transportation to the school attended before becoming homeless or the school last attended, if such transportation is requested.
- Participate in school programs with children who are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular school program because of homelessness.
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or any other documents required for enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes in the school of choice even while a dispute over enrolling a children is being resolved.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other children served in these programs.
- Receive transportation to school and to school programs.

### Contact Information

Contact the Meskwaki Settlement School or the Iowa Department of Education for help enrolling or to provide any information helpful to ensure student success.

Meskwaki Settlement School  
Office of the Superintendent  
1608 305<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tama, IA 52339  
(641) 484-9000

Iowa Department of Education  
Homeless Children Liaison  
Grimes State Office Building  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
(515) 281-3965

Information about Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 33 (IAC 281-33) *Educating The Homeless* is available at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/chapter/281.33.pdf>.

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