RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENT/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS 18 years or older

- Immediately notify the Homeless Program Coordinator (and school, if necessary) of the student's homeless situation.
- Provide requested information that will be used to certify a student's eligibility under the "McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: Education for Homeless Children and Youths."
- To ensure homeless rights during the year, you will need to maintain contact with the Homeless Program Coordinator; immediately report all changes in phone number, address, housing (including if no longer homeless), and school transfers; respond to school/district communication in a timely manner; and provide information when requested.
- Make sure the student attends school regularly and is on time.
- Turn in notes for absences. If the student is going to be absent, it is best to notify the school immediately with the reason for the absence and the expected duration.
- To extend homeless rights to next year, contact the Homeless Program Coordinator during the month of June, on or before June 30, and reply to all requests for updated information. Students may be exited from the homeless program on June 30th of each year unless their rights are extended.
- Before you disenroll or transfer your child to another school, consult with the Homeless Program Coordinator regarding enrollment rights & services. This is the best way to ensure continued rights at your child's school.

- All siblings in the family will be designated homeless using the same information unless parent indicates otherwise.
- Appropriate school staff will be notified on a confidential need-to-know basis.
- A student's homeless designation may be changed if there is evidence the student's situation or address has changed or McKinney-Vento eligibility has not been determined.
- Falsifying residency for attendance & enrollment purposes is illegal and will result in immediate disenrollment.

Homeless Program Coordinator: Monica McRho
Parker Family Resource Center & Homeless Services Office
(916) 277-6892 / fax (916) 277-6426 / monicamc@scusd.edu
Non-English speakers: Please call with an interpreter

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT: EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN & YOUTHS

Students may be considered homeless if they live in these or similar situations
- A public/private place that is not designed for or normally used as a place for sleeping
- In a motel/hotel, campground, or trailer due to a lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- In a shelter/transitional housing program
- In cars, parks/public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus/train stations, or similar settings
- Temporarily moved in with others due to loss of housing or due to financial problems (eviction, job loss, etc.)
- Homeless students also include unaccompanied youth, children abandoned in hospitals or awaiting foster care and migratory children who live in the conditions described above.

Student rights under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education assistance Act
- The district shall, according to the student's best interest, enroll the student per 1 or 2 below. In determining best interest, the school shall, to the extent feasible, keep a homeless student in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent/guardian.
  1) Continue the student at their school of origin (the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled)
     -- For the duration of homelessness, in the event they become homeless during an academic year or between academic years.
     -- For the remainder of the academic year, if the student becomes permanently housed during an academic year.
  2) Enroll the student in the public school serving the attendance area for the student's address, for which the student is eligible to attend.
- If a decision is made to send the student to a school other than the one selected (above) by the parent/guardian, a written explanation, including the right to appeal, will be given to the parent/guardian and they will be referred to the Homeless Program Coordinator, who will carry out the dispute resolution process. The student may attend the school until the dispute is resolved.
- The student may be immediately enrolled even if unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as academic records, medical records, proof of residency, or other documentation. (Parent will receive a deadline to submit missing records. Contact Homeless Program Coordinator above).
- The right to attend school and participate in all school activities for which the student is eligible.
- The student automatically qualifies for free school meals.
- The student may receive necessary transportation assistance to continue at school of origin.
- For unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Program Coordinator will assist with enrollment, placement & dispute resolution.
- Preschool students have special rights too. Please call for information.
CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 1806 (ab 1806)
More info: California Education Code: SECTION 1. Section 48915.5

* EXEMPTION FROM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS
(Contact the student’s high school Counselor for more information)

Pursuant to Section 51225.1 of the Education Code, California Assembly Bill 1806 modified the graduation requirements for homeless youth. Under certain circumstances, the bill requires a school district to exempt a homeless student from all coursework & other requirements that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements.

- A homeless pupil who transfers schools any time after the completion of 10th grade shall be exempt from SCUSD’s coursework & requirements that are in addition to statewide coursework requirements, unless the pupil is reasonably able to complete SCUSD’s requirements by the end of their 4th year of high school.
- If a pupil is reasonably able to complete SCUSD’s graduation requirements within a fifth year of high school, the pupil can pursue an option to remain in high school for a fifth year.
- If a pupil with an exemption completes state requirements before the end of the pupil’s 4th year in high school, and the pupil would otherwise be entitled to remain in school, SCUSD shall not require or request that the pupil graduate before the end of the pupil’s 4th year of high school.
- A pupil who qualifies for the exemption shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied the opportunity to enroll in and complete all courses for which the pupil is eligible, regardless of whether the courses fall under statewide graduation requirements.
- A pupil who qualifies for the exemption may request it at any time, and SCUSD shall grant the exemption even if the pupil previously declined it. Once granted, the exemption cannot be revoked.
- SCUSD shall not require or request that a pupil transfer schools in order to qualify for the exemption.
- A pupil, educational rights holder, or the Homeless Coordinator shall not request a high school transfer solely to qualify a pupil for an exemption.

The pupil’s high school Counselor can determine eligibility for the Exemption, provide information on how the Exemption and completing a 5th year of high school will affect postsecondary school admission, and discuss transfer opportunities through California Community Colleges.

* PARTIAL CREDIT FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS
(Contact the student’s school Counselor for more information)

- SCUSD shall issue full or partial credit for coursework satisfactorily completed by the pupil while attending another school (public, nonpublic, juvenile, agency, etc), even if the pupil did not complete the entire course.
- Credits shall be applied to the same or equivalent course, if applicable, as the coursework in the prior school. If partial credit is awarded, the pupil shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, in order to complete the course.
- A pupil shall not be required to retake a course if it was satisfactorily completed in another school. If the pupil did not complete the course, the pupil shall not be required to retake the portion that was completed unless SCUSD, in consultation with the educational rights holder, determines that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate.
- Pupils cannot be prevented from retaking or taking a course in order to meet CSU or UC eligibility requirements.