

Through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, a federal law, you have rights to help you stay in school and succeed. As an unaccompanied youth, regardless of where you go to school, each school district has a local Homeless Education Liaison to help you. In Charlotte County, it is the Homeless Education Project.

You are an unaccompanied youth if you are not living with a parent or legal guardian, and you have not graduated from high school, but you:

- Have run away from home.
- Have been thrown out of your home.
- Have been left on your own by a parent or guardian.
- Have moved in with friends or relatives because you don't have a space to stay.
- Are staying at a shelter, in a car, park, motel, train/bus station.

AS AN UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH, YOU HAVE CERTAIN SCHOOL CHOICES

- You may continue to attend, or re-enroll at the public school you attended when you became homeless, or the last school you attended after you became homeless. (Both are the school of origin.) Transportation to and from the school of origin will be provided by your school district.
- Or you may transfer to the school that serves the area where you are now staying (the attendance area school).

What are my rights and services in the Homeless Education Project?

The Homeless Education Project staff will:

- Provide you with information about your rights.
- Help you decide which school to attend.
- Inform you of your right to transportation and help you get transportation, if needed.

The Homeless Education Project staff will also give you information about services, including:

- free breakfast and lunch
- backpacks and school supplies
- emergency clothing & hygiene supplies
- birth certificate or Florida identification cards
- food stamp application
- community referrals
- FAFSA application, college scholarships, GED info & fees
- fee waivers for school activities and graduation

Contact the Homeless Education Project:

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