




# Homeless Coding in State Collections

Recorded August 2023





# McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- Primary piece of legislation related to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Provisions ensure the enrollment, accessibility, and educational stability for qualifying students
- Although CSI schools receive their initial allocation of McKinney-Vento funding based on counts of students experiencing homelessness as identified on the October Count data collection, McKinney-Vento Eligibility continues throughout the year 



# Who Qualifies for McKinney-Vento?

- Any student who lacks a nighttime residence that is fixed, regular, and adequate.
  - Fixed: a residence that is stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.
  - Regular: a residence that is used on a nightly basis.
  - Adequate: a residence that is sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments.





# Qualifying Living Situations

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason – a.k.a. ‘double-up housing’
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, etc.
- Youth on their own who lack a fixed, adequate and regular primary nighttime residence (unaccompanied youth)





# Resources

**School Programs Library**

The CSI School Programs Team is responsible for overseeing the provision of services for all special populations and uses its Equity Screener and related Tiers of Support to fulfill this responsibility.

**Special Populations**

Special Education

Section 504

Gifted Education

Multilingual Learners (MLs)

McKinney-Vento Homeless Act

Migrant Education Program

**McKinney-Vento Homeless Act**

The Homeless Education program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11431 et seq.). The McKinney-Vento Act was enacted to address the numerous barriers homeless children face in obtaining a free, appropriate public education.

**Contact**  
 Betsy Basch  
 Mental Health Programs Coordinator  
 303-532-7395  
[BetsyBasch@csi.state.co.us](mailto:BetsyBasch@csi.state.co.us)

For more information, see:

- CDE's [McKinney-Vento Homeless Education](#) page
- NCHÉ's [Homeless Liaison Toolkit](#)

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McKinney-Vento Enrollment Residency Questionnaire

[Open English](#)

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McKinney-Vento FAQ

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CSI School McKinney Vento Resources by County/School District of Residence

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<https://resources.csi.state.co.us/mckinney-vento-homeless-act/>



# Resources

## Completed forms due to CSI by Sept 19<sup>th</sup> for identification in October Count data collection.

### McKinney-Vento Homeless Act

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For more information, see:

- [CDE's McKinney-Vento Homeless Education](#) page
- [NCHE's Homeless Liaison Toolkit](#)

#### Contact

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# Homeless Fields in State Reporting

Located in the Student Demographic (SD) File

1. Homeless
2. Cause of Housing Crisis
3. Additional Cause of Housing Crisis
4. Primary Nighttime Residence
5. Free/Reduced Price Lunch
6. FRL Eligibility Identification (NEW 23-24)





# 1. Homeless

**Homeless** -- Flag if the student meets the criteria of a homeless individual according to Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance reauthorized in 2015 by the Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act. A homeless individual is one who lacks a “fixed, regular, and adequate primary nighttime residence,” including children and youth who are:

1. Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship (not due to cultural preference or a desire to save money)
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate housing.
3. Living in emergency or transitional housing.
4. Abandoned in hospitals.
5. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or bus or train stations.
6. Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations.
7. Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

**NOTE:** Not all persons living in the situations described would be considered homeless. Two major factors to consider when making a determination are the adequacy and permanence of the housing. Information to assist with determining Homelessness by the definition can be accessed at [http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless\\_data](http://www.cde.state.co.us/dropoutprevention/homeless_data) Select

## “Determining Homelessness by the Definition”

0	No
3	Yes, and is in the physical custody of a parent or guardian
4	Yes, and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian (unaccompanied youth)







# 2. Primary Nighttime Residence

**Primary Nighttime Residence** - The temporary residence that is being used by the student as a result of economic displacement. The residence may be either public or private.

00	N/A
01	Shelters / Transitional Living
02	Doubled Up Due to Economic Hardship
03	Unsheltered (Cars, Parks, Campgrounds)
04	Hotels/Motels





# 3. & 4. Cause of Housing Crisis

**Cause of Housing Crisis** – The primary cause behind a student being homeless. The Homeless field must be marked 3 or 4.

00	N/A
01	Eviction/Foreclosure/Cannot afford housing
02	Household/Domestic Factor
03	Loss or decrease in income/Loss of job/Seasonal Employee
04	Natural Disaster
05	Pandemic
98	Prefer not to answer/Decline
99	None of the above

**Additional Cause of Housing Crisis** – The secondary cause behind a student being homeless. The Homeless field must be marked Yes ('3' or '4') to use a code other than N/A ('00'). N/A is also used when there is not a secondary cause.

00	N/A
01	Eviction/Foreclosure/Cannot afford housing
02	Household/Domestic Factor
03	Loss or decrease in income/Loss of job/Seasonal Employee
04	Natural Disaster
05	Pandemic
99	None of the above



# 5. Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible

**Free/Reduced Lunch Price Eligible** – Student meets the federal eligibility criteria for free or reduced lunch price. Eligibility may be documented using one of the following methods:

- Direct Certification
- Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals
- District migrant, homeless, runaway, or foster lists
- Head Start documented participation
- Family Economic Data Survey form

00	Not Eligible
01	Free Lunch Eligible
02	Reduced Lunch Eligible





# 6. FRL Eligibility Identification

- Creates a new At-Risk measure in the school finance formula
  - Schools should plan to record Free Lunch Eligibility Identification eligibility criteria in their SIS for 23-24

0	Not Identified as Free Lunch Eligible
1	Direct Certification (Medicaid, SNAP, TANF FDPIR)- including extension to other household members
2	Other Source Categorical (Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, Foster, Head Start documented participation)- district lists, student specific eligibility
3	Application (Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals, Family Economic Data Survey Form, or Combination form)

- Reminder:
  - Do not identify students as **homeless** in your SIS without CSI approval





# Coding in PowerSchool

1) Homeless

Start Page > Student Selection > State/Province – CO > CO Demographics (tab) > Student Demographic Information (section)

2) Primary Nighttime residence

3) Cause of Housing Crisis

4) Additional Cause of Housing Crisis

5) Free/Reduced Price Lunch

Student Demographic Information	
Homeless	(3) Yes and is in the physical custody of a parent or guardian
Cause of Housing Crisis	03 - Loss or Decrease of Income/Job Loss ▾
Additional Cause of Housing Crisis	99 - None of the Above ▾
Primary Nighttime Residence	02 - Doubled Up Due to Economic Hardship ▾
Military Connected	0 - No ▾

Start Page > Student Selection > Administration > Lunch

Lunch status	Free (F) ▾
Application #	<input type="text"/>
Date Submitted	0/0/0
Date Responded	0/0/0
Lunch ID	0 <input type="text"/>
Current balance	\$ 0.00



# Coding in Infinite Campus

1) Homeless

*Index > Student Information > Program Participation > Homeless > New option*

2) Primary Nighttime residence

**Homeless Detail**

Primary Night Time Residence  
02: Doubled-up (Due to Economic Hardship) ▼

Cause of Housing Crisis  
02: Household/Domestic Factors ▼

\*Start Date: 09/24/2020 [calendar icon] End Date: [calendar icon]

Homeless  
3: Physical Custody of Parent/Guardian ▼

Additional Cause of Housing Crisis  
[dropdown menu]

District Defined Elements

3) Cause of Housing Crisis

4) Additional Cause of Housing Crisis

*Index > FRAM > Eligibility > New option*

5) Free Lunch Flag

Eligibility

New Documents

Eligibility Editor

School Year	Eligibility Type	Eligibility	State Code	Certified Type	Start Date	End Date
19-20	Meal	Free	01	Income	10/03/2019	09/01/2020
19-20	Meal	Free	01	Income	09/01/2019	10/02/2019
18-19	Meal	Free	01	Income	10/05/2018	08/31/2019
18-19	Meal	Paid	03	Income	09/18/2018	10/04/2018



# Coding Considerations

- **DO NOT** code a student as homeless in your SIS **until you receive confirmation from CSI.**
- Homeless status remains the same **throughout** the school year, regardless of change in housing.
- Homeless students automatically qualify for the free lunch eligibility status for the duration of the school year, even if housing situation improves.
- Homeless status may rollover from previous school year. Be sure to check your SIS and audit for homeless flags.





# Validating Homeless Data

- CSI validation resources
  - Record Checker Tool
  - Data Validations Checklist
- Running ad hoc reports
- Partnering with the MKV liaison to double check the data reported and compare to CSI-approved MKV forms
- Carefully review OC summary report





# Thank you for viewing this training!

For questions on the **McKinney Vento Forms, identification, and approval** please contact Betsy Basch:

[BetsyBasch@csi.state.co.us](mailto:BetsyBasch@csi.state.co.us)

For questions on **data entry and coding**, please reach out to the CSI Data Submissions Team:

[submissions\\_CSI@csi.state.co.us](mailto:submissions_CSI@csi.state.co.us)

