

Louisiana Believes

**HOMELESS EDUCATION and
EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT
(ESSA)**

Goal

The purpose of today's presentation is to provide:

- Information on McKinney-Vento under ESSA
- Help for all Homeless Liaisons in Louisiana (*see Top 5+ of Title IX, Part A, and Liaison Toolkit - www.serve.org/nche/pr/liaison_toolkit.php*)
- Guidelines for LDOE's McKinney-Vento Homeless Program (*see Guidelines handout*)
- Resources to assist in implementing new requirements
Contact information for webinars, FAQ document, Non-regulatory guidance, and LDOE website information
- Brief Question and Answer period

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Dec 2015
ESSA
signed
into law

Oct 1, 2016
ESSA M-V
amendments
went into
effect

**Dec 10,
2016**
AFCP no
longer
homeless
(except for
covered
states)

Jul 2016
ED issued
EHCY
NRG

Nov 28, 2016
ED issued
Final Regs on
State Plans,
Foster Care,
and more

SY17-18
Remaining
ESSA
amendments
go into effect

For more information, visit www.serve.org/nche/legis/essa.php

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

- Local liaisons must ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1087vv). (Section 722(g)(6)(A)(x)(III)). Local liaisons also must assist youths with receiving verification of such status for federal student aid purposes. (Section 722(g)(6)(A)(x)(III)). This status is important because independent students do not need to provide parent information on the FAFSA, and an independent student's Federal financial aid package is calculated without the expectation of parental financial support.

Early Childhood Homelessness

- LDOE-Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) shall increase the efforts to identify Preschool-aged homeless children (Section 722(g)(1)(E)), including clarification that local liaisons shall ensure that these children and their families have access to and receive services, if eligible, under LEA administered preschool programs, including Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities), and other preschool programs administered by the LEA.
 - Preschool are also entitled to School of Origin rights including access to transportation.
 - An increased emphasis has been placed on Early Childhood homelessness.
 - Early Childhood becomes a major focus in professional development and technical assistance.
 - Liaisons shall ensure homeless families and children can access early intervention services under IDEA Part C, if eligible.
 - Must be included in data reporting.

Professional Development

- Professional development and technical assistance (Section 722 (g)(1)(D); Section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii)) at both the State and local levels shall continue to be a focus for LDOE-Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) to ensure that students experiencing homelessness are immediately enrolled in school, have school stability and the opportunity to succeed with a free and appropriate education as other students. Professional development required for LDOE-EHCY and LEAs shall be tracked.

Professional Development - Who?

- LDOE-Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) and LEAs shall continue training, collaboration, and coordination with other service providers, including public and private child welfare and social services agencies; law enforcement agencies; juvenile and family courts; agencies providing mental health services; domestic violence agencies; child care providers; runaway and homeless youth centers; providers of services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act; and providers of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing, including public housing agencies, shelter operators, and operators of transitional housing facilities.

Professional Development - Why?

- To ensure that that youths described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Act and youths separated from the public schools are identified and accorded equal access to appropriate secondary education and support services, including by identifying and removing barriers that prevent youths described in this paragraph from receiving appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school, in accordance with State, local, and school policies.
- Youths described in section 725(2) will receive assistance from counselors to advise such youths, and prepare and improve the readiness of such youths for college (Section 722(g)(1) (K)).

Technical Assistance Requirements

- LDOE-Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) and LEAs shall continue to provide technical assistance and training to LEAs regarding removing enrollment barriers, including barriers related to missed application or enrollment deadlines, fines, or fees; records required for enrollment, including immunization or other required health records, proof of residency, or other documentation; or academic records, including documentation for credit transfer ((Section 722 (g)(1)(F)), Section 722(g)(1)(H)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv) & (v)).
 - Homeless children and youth shall be enrolled in school immediately, even if the student has missed the application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
 - LDOE-Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY) and LEAs shall develop, review, and revise policies to remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, and retention of homeless students in school, including barriers due to fees, fines, and absences (Section 722(g)(1)(I)).

DATA WEBSITE

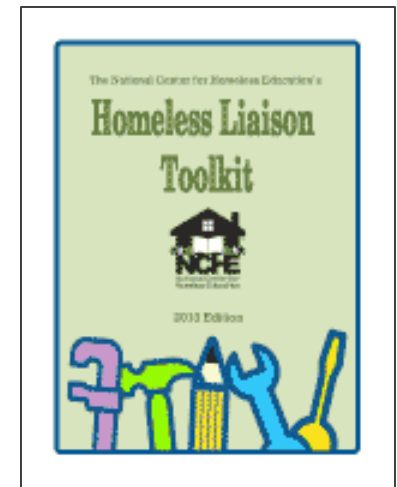
- LDOE State Report Cards and Data shall include disaggregated information on the graduation rates and academic achievement of homeless children and youth and of children and youth in foster care.

Resources

- **National Center for Homeless Education**
<http://nche.ed.gov>
- **National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth**
<http://www.naehcy.org/educational-resources/naehcy-publications>

Homeless Liaison Toolkit

- Comprehensive resource that will assist both new and veteran local liaisons
- Draws on the expertise of experienced practitioners
- Includes requirements of the law, good practices, sample forms, and links to resources
- Visit www.serve.org/nche/pr/liaison_toolkit.php



Action Steps

- Follow LDOE guidelines
- Attend Training available through the National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) at:
<http://nche.ed.gov/web/group.php>. (Webinars are live or taped for self-paced training.)
- Posters should be visible at schools and LEAs and in the community
 - Order Free Products for schools/district office. Review additional resources provided on the NCHE website
<http://nche.ed.gov/products.php>
- NCHE Products and Publications <http://nche.ed.gov>
- Review frequently asked questions of the Education Rights of children and youth in Homeless situations
http://www.naehcy.org/dl/naehcy_faq.pdf

Questions

Tasha Anthony, Homeless Coordinator

225-219-0205

Tasha.Anthony@la.gov

or

Louisiana Hotline

1-844-533-4187