

Rights of Homeless Students

West Lincoln-Broadwell ESD #92 Homeless Policy

The West Lincoln-Broadwell School District shall provide an educational environment that treats all students with dignity and respect. Every homeless student shall have equal access to the same free and appropriate educational opportunities as students who are not homeless. This commitment to the educational rights of homeless children, youth and youth not living with a parent or guardian applies to all services, programs and activities provided or made available, as prescribed in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Homeless Definition Under the McKinney-Vento Act

According to the federal McKinney-Vento Act, a family and the children of the family are considered in transition (or homeless) if they and/or their children:

(A) Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

(B) This includes—

(1) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason...

(2) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings ...

(3) children who are unaccompanied youth, which includes youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian...

(4) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(5) migratory children.

Rights of Children of Families in Transition (or homeless)

Children in this situation are entitled to:

(A) *Immediate Enrollment* -The right to be enrolled immediately in school, without medical or academic records, regardless of district policy.

(B) Choice of Schools -The homeless child has three choices:

School of Origin - The School the child last attended.

School of Origin - The school the child attended when he/she became homeless

The school closest to temporary housing

(C) Transportation - Homeless children are entitled to the same rights to transportation as other children in their district. School districts are responsible for transportation costs.

(D) Services - Homeless children are entitled to the same services that are available to other children in their districts.

(E) They qualify for waiver fees and free and reduced lunch. "School fees" that are waived include, but are not limited to: Charges for textbooks, instructional materials, locks, towels, lab equipment, field trips, for uniforms or equipment related to sports or fine arts programs, supplies related to a particular class such as shop, home economics, lab, and art. Fees for graduation like cap and gowns, school records, health services, and driver's education.

(F) Dispute Resolution - If problems arise between the school and parents or between districts, the parent shall be referred to an intermediary in each Regional Office of Education. In the meantime, the child must remain in school and receive transportation.

West Lincoln-Broadwell ESD #92 Homeless Liaison

If you have any questions or know of any family in the district who may fit the above definition, please contact:

Heather Baker

Homeless District Liaison

West Lincoln-Broadwell School

2695 Woodlawn Road

Lincoln, IL 62656

Phone: (217) 732-2630

Fax: (217) 732-3623

hbaker@wlb92.org

ALL INFORMATION IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

Resources for Families in Transition

Local Services and Agencies

American Red Cross:

Central Illinois Chapter

311 West John Gwynn Jr. Ave.

Peoria, IL 61605

Phone: (309) 677-7272

(309) 662-0500 (crisis)

Bloomington Chapter

One Westport Court

Bloomington, IL 61704

Phone: (309) 662-0500

Salvation Army of Logan County Financial Assistance

307 North Kickapoo

Lincoln, IL - 62656

(217) 732-7890

Services provided: Rent Payment Assistance, Utility Assistance

Limited funds are available for rent and utilities for families and individuals in crisis situations. SA of Logan County is also the agent for their local water company customer assistance.

Medical Services

Logan County Health Department

109 Third Street

Lincoln, IL 62656

Hours: M-F 8:30-4:30

(217) 735-2317

Project Oz

Services: for homeless youth (runaway and locked out)

1105 W. Front St.

Bloomington, IL 61701

Office: (309) 827-0377

Hotline: (309) 827-4005

ADV & SAS (Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services)

Services: Provides confidential services to victims of domestic violence, individual and group counseling, confidential emergency shelter

(800) 892-3375 (24-hour hotline)

Lincoln-Logan Food Pantry

Phone: (217) 732-6644

125 N. Logan St., Lincoln, IL 62656

Logan County Housing Authority

1028 N College St, Lincoln, IL 62656Hours:

Friday 8:30 AM–12 PM

Saturday Closed

Sunday Closed

Monday 8:30 AM–12 PM, 1–4:30 PM

Tuesday 8:30 AM–12 PM, 1–4:30 PM

Wednesday 8:30 AM–12 PM, 1–4:30 PM

Thursday 8:30 AM–12 PM, 1–4:30 PM

Phone: (217) 732-7776

Hotlines

AIDS (800) 243-2437

Child Abuse (800) 252-2873

Drug & Alcohol (800) 662-4357

Hunger Hotline (800) 359-2163

Runaway Hotline (800) 231-6946

STD Hotline (800) 227-8922

Suicide Hotline (800) 248-7475

Youth Crisis Hotline (800) 448-4663