

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance

RSU 16 follows the provisions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which aims to minimize the educational disruptions experienced by homeless students. Under McKinney-Vento, homeless students are guaranteed the right to a free, appropriate, public education, and they have the right to enroll in a public school even if they lack the typically required documents and immunizations. When students become homeless, they can remain enrolled in the schools they have been attending even though they might no longer meet residency requirements. In addition, homeless students can receive assistance with the transportation they need to attend school.

Who is considered homeless?

According to McKinney-Vento, '*homeless*' can be defined as an individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth who are:

- Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate housing
- Living in emergency or transitional housing
- Abandoned in hospitals
- Having a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, regular sleeping accommodations
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations
- Migratory students meeting the descriptions above

Resources For Families

- **RSU 16 McKinney Vento Liaison**
Jenny Rose, Adult Education Director
(207) 740-0417 with confidential voicemail, or email jrose@rsu16.org
Liaisons in other school districts may be found by searching by town [here](#).
- **List of [Emergency Shelters in Maine](#)**
- **[New Beginnings](#) - 795-4077**
- **[MaineHousing Search](#)** – list of rentals and affordable housing **by County**
- **Common Ties - 795-6710 [Housing Resources](#)**
- **2-1-1 MAINE**
This is a statewide directory of health and human services available in Maine. The free hotline connects callers to trained call specialists who can help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Call 2-1-1 or visit <http://www.211maine.org/>
- **Maine Mental Health Crisis Hotline**
24/7 assistance to connect to your closest crisis center for professional guidance, follow-up care and support. Hotline: 888-568-1112
- **State McKinney-Vento Coordinator**
Amelia Lyons
McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Specialist at Maine Department of Education
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