

## Education of Homeless Children and Youth

The **MSAD 54 school district** recognizes its statutory obligation to provide a free public education to homeless children and youth. Homeless students, including unaccompanied homeless students, will not be segregated or stigmatized on the basis of their homelessness. Such education shall be provided according to the best interests of the homeless student, considering factors such as the impact of mobility on achievement, educational needs, health and safety, and while giving priority to the wishes of the student's parent/guardian, or in the case of an unaccompanied student, the student's own wishes.

**MSAD 54** shall perform all applicable duties required by federal and state law regarding services provided to homeless children. The Superintendent will designate a Homeless Education Liaison who will ensure that homeless students are enrolled in school, and have an equal opportunity to succeed in all educational opportunities and that homeless students and their families receive referrals to appropriate services. The Liaison will coordinate all of **MSAD 54's** obligations under the law.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement any administrative procedures necessary to carry out this policy, consistent with applicable statutes and regulations.

Legal References: 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq. (The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g et seq.; 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)  
20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 261 and 5205  
20-A M.R.S.A. § 6001  
Me. Dept. of Ed. Rule Ch. 14 (Education of Homeless Students)

Cross References: JLG-R Homeless Students – Administrative Procedure  
JRA – Student Records and Information