



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234
Office of P-12 Education

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**NYS FIELD MEMO
NCLB McKinney-Vento
#03-2014**

October 2014

To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of LEAs and Charter Schools
Title I Coordinators
McKinney-Vento Liaisons
Committee on Special Education (CSE) Chairs

From: Maxine Meadows-Shuford (MM-S)
Supervisor, Title I School and Community Services

Subject: Mandatory McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Training

Although the recession may be over, children and families in New York continue to struggle economically. From 2008-09 to 2012-13, school districts across the state have reported an increase of 44% in the number of students identified as homeless. To ensure that all NYS school districts are aware of their responsibility to identify students experiencing homelessness as well as provide services to help them succeed in school, the New York State Education Department (SED) is **requiring your school district's participation** at one of this year's *McKinney-Vento Workshops* or webinars hosted by our technical assistance center, NYS-TEACHS. Superintendents, LEA McKinney-Vento liaisons, CSE chairs, registrars, school counselors, social workers, principals, transportation directors, school attorneys and Title I Directors are among those who would most benefit from attending one of these events.

The free of charge, half-day McKinney-Vento Workshops are planned for:

- **Melville, Long Island:** November 6
- **Rochester:** November 14

Please be aware that McKinney-Vento funds or Title I, Part A funds can be used for travel-related expenses and staff replacement costs related to your attendance at one of the workshops. To register for one of the Workshops please visit: <http://www.nysteachs.org/trainings/>

The webinars are scheduled throughout the year and last one hour. NYS-TEACHS offers webinars designed for professionals working in New York City (NYC) and webinars for professionals in all other areas of New York State (NYS). For more information please see: <http://www.nysteachs.org/trainings/>

These professional development sessions will include information on:

- The basics of McKinney-Vento and NYS Education laws related to the education of students in temporary housing,
- McKinney-Vento liaison responsibilities,
- Transportation for students in temporary housing,
- Early childhood education for students in temporary housing,
- School stability for students in foster care,
- Funding sources for instructional and transportation services for students in temporary housing,
- The experiences of students in temporary housing, including a discussion with youth who have experienced homelessness,
- The rights of unaccompanied youth who are homeless,
- Trauma-sensitive strategies for school success and using trauma-sensitive strategies with parents and caregivers, and
- Other timely topics relating to students experiencing homelessness.

For LEAs receiving McKinney-Vento Grant funds, there will be a mandatory, full-day workshop this spring focused on strategies to help students in temporary housing succeed in school. Spring workshop sessions will include topics such as trauma-sensitivity, implementing school success model strategies, and self-care for staff working with students in temporary housing. This workshop will take place in Albany in late March or early April. More information will be forthcoming. LEAs receiving McKinney-Vento Grants are invited to attend both the fall and spring workshops.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Melanie Faby at (518) 473-0295, or NYS-TEACHS at 1-800-388-2014, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. I thank you for your anticipated support and look forward to your participation.

cc: M. Faby