

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5118.1(a)

**RE: Students Who Are Homeless
Students**

Adopted: 10/3/2013

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised: 5/11/2017

Revised: 2/15/2022

Children who meet the Federal definition of “homeless” will be provided a free and appropriate public education in the same manner as all other students of the District and will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. No student who is homeless will be denied enrollment based on lack of proof of residency or due to barriers such as fines, fees and absences. No Board policy, administrative regulations, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of children who are homeless.

Students who are homeless will be provided services comparable to other students in the District in compliance with federal and state law. Access to District programs include public preschool programs administered by the District.

Any child or youth who is homeless who is denied school accommodations shall continue in attendance or be immediately enrolled in the school selected by the child in the school district. The homeless child or youth or the parent/guardian of such homeless individual shall be provided with a written explanation of the reasons for the denial of accommodations in a manner and form understandable to such homeless child or youth or parent/guardian. Information shall also be provided regarding the right to appeal the decision of the denial of accommodations. The homeless child or youth shall be entitled to continue in attendance in the school district during all available appeals.

In addition, if a homeless child or youth is denied school accommodations, such homeless child or youth shall be entitled to a hearing conducted pursuant to C.G.S. 10-186.

The Superintendent will appoint a Liaison for children who are homeless, who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent and detailed in the administrative regulations accompanying this policy. Additionally, the Liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator for the Education of Children who are homeless and youth as well as with the community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to children and youths who are homeless.

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

4-176e to 4-180a Agency hearings.

4-181a contested cases. Reconsideration. Modifications.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board. Readmission. Transfers. (as amended by PA 19-179)

10-253(e) School privileges for children in certain placements, non-resident children, and children in temporary shelters.

17a-101 Protection of children from abuse. Reports required of certain professional persons. When child may be removed from surroundings without court order.

17a-103 Reports by others.

17a-106 Cooperation in relation to the prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect

46b-120 Definitions.

P.A. 19-179 An Act Concerning Homeless Students' Access to Education.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (PL 107-110Sec 1031) 42 U.S.C. §11431-11435, as amended by the ESSA, P.L. 114-95.

Federal Register: McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program, Vol. 81, No. 52, 3/17/2016.

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Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended, added by section 513 of P.L. 93-568, codified at 20 U.S.C 1232g.)

Dept. of Educ. 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (May 9, 1980 45 FR 30802) regs.
Implementing FERPA enacted as part of 438 of General Educ. Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) parent and student privacy and other rights with respect to educational records, as amended 11/21/96, and Final Rule 34 CFR Part 99, December 9, 2008, December 2, 2011.