

Duties of the Homeless Liaison

Section 722(g)(6) of the Act requires the local homeless liaison to ensure that:

1. Homeless children and youth, including unaccompanied youth, are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies.
2. Homeless children and youth enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, schools of that LEA.
3. Homeless families, children, and youth receive educational services for which such families, children, and youth are eligible, including Head Start, Even Start, and other preschool programs administered by the LEA, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services.
4. The parents or guardians of homeless children and youth are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youth is disseminated where such children and youth receive services under this Act, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens.
6. Enrollment disputes are mediated.
7. The parents or guardians of a homeless child or youth, or any unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation to the school of origin or the school which serves the location where the student currently resides.

Additionally, as part of their duties, LEA homeless liaisons coordinate and collaborate with the state Homeless Education Coordinator and community and school personnel responsible for providing education and related services to homeless children and youth.

Finally, LEAs must inform school personnel, service providers, and advocates working with homeless families of the duties of the local homeless liaisons.

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