



Chickasha Public Schools McKinney-Vento Handbook

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
General Information.....	2
McKinney-Vento Act Requirements.....	3
Best Interest Determination for School Placement.....	3
Prohibition of Segregation.....	4
Definition of Homelessness.....	4
Potential Warning Signs of Homelessness.....	6
Chickasha Public Schools Responsibilities	7
Chickasha Public Schools Policy & Procedures.....	8
Chickasha Public Schools Homeless Liaison Duties.....	10
CPS Dispute Resolution Policy.....	13
FAQS.....	16
McKinney-Vento Contacts and Sources.....	18
Forms and Community Resources/Agencies.....	18

U.S. Department of Education - USDE

Oklahoma State Department of Education - OSDE and/or SEA

Chickasha Public Schools - LEA



Introduction

The mission of the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program at OSDE and Chickasha Public Schools is to ensure educational equity and success for students experiencing homelessness by providing support according to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The program's vision at OSDE and Chickasha Public Schools is that all students experiencing homelessness are provided the opportunity and support needed to be academically successful and able to achieve their goals.

General Information

In order to better support the education of homeless children and youth, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires a compound of activities to be implemented by the State Educational Agencies (SEAs) and the Local Educational Agencies. Among the most notable support activities are requirements for Chickasha Public Schools includes but is not limited to:

- Review and revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, and success in the education of homeless children and youth;
- Use the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act definition of homeless when identifying and determining which students are eligible for services;
- Designate a local liaison to coordinate services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically;
- Coordinate the local plan required under Title I, Part A with the needs of homeless children and youth, including making a mandatory set-aside of funds under Title I, Part A to serve homeless children and youth;
- Implement procedures to ensure homeless children and youth receive appropriate credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed while attending a prior school;
- School counselors to assist and advise homeless children and youth to improve college preparation and readiness;
- Inform unaccompanied homeless youth regarding their independent status on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). - See Appendix

See Chickasha Public Schools Board Policy EB.



McKinney-Vento Act Requirements

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) requires all school districts including Chickasha Public Schools, with and without subgrants, to submit information to determine the extent to which homeless children and youth have access to a free, appropriate, public education under Title IX, Part A of ESSA. All data reported must be based on actual student enrollment. Estimated numbers are not acceptable.

Implement a system to collect the needed data on each homeless student who is identified and enrolled. This data collection can be facilitated by the use of an intake form at the time of enrollment, or when a currently enrolled child becomes identified as homeless.

Policy Review and Revision Requirements

Annually, Chickasha Public Schools must review and revise any laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, and success in schools of homeless children and youth. In the review of such laws, regulations, practices, or policies, Chickasha Public Schools should give specific consideration to the laws regarding the following areas:

- Identification
- School Selection
- Enrollment
- Transportation
- Services
- Resolution of Disputes
- Free Meals
- Title I
- Training
- Coordination
- Preschool
- Appropriate Credit for Full or Partial Coursework Satisfactorily Completed

Best Interest Determination for School Placement

The McKinney-Vento Act requires schools to consider the school of origin as the first option in school enrollment. Parents may choose the school of origin or the school in the residency area where the child is currently living. Individuals may be consulted when determining what placements are in the child's or youth's best interest.



Prohibition of Segregation

States receiving funds under 42 USC, Part B-Education for Homeless Children and Youths shall never segregate such child or youth in a separate school, or in a separate program within a school, based on such child's or youth's status as homeless. [42 USC, Section 11432(e)(3)(A)]

Definition of Homelessness

Federal Definition of Homelessness

Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, Section 11434(a)(2) defines homeless children and youth as those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The law provides several examples of situations that meet the definition. This includes children and youth:

- sharing housing due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- living in hotels, motels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate housing;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters; abandoned in hospitals;
- living in a public or private place not designated for, or normally used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar places; and/or
- living in one of the above circumstances and who are migratory.

A *fixed residence* is one that is stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.

A *regular residence* is one that is used on a regular (i.e. nightly) basis.

An *adequate residence* is one that is sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments.

These determinations should be made on a case-by-case basis. In general, children or youth living on the streets, transitional housing shelters, cars, abandoned buildings, and other inadequate accommodations are considered homeless.



The USDE further specifies the following categories of homeless children and youth:

- Children and Youth in Transitional Shelters – Children and youth staying temporarily in trailer parks or camping areas because they lack adequate living accommodations should be considered homeless. Those living in trailer parks or camping areas on a long-term basis in adequate accommodations are not considered homeless;
- Doubled-Up Children and Youth – Children and youth who are sharing housing with other families or individuals are considered homeless if they are doubled-up because of a loss of housing, economic hardship, or another similar situation. Families living in doubled-up accommodations voluntarily to save money generally are not considered homeless;
- Foster Children and Youth – The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) removed “awaiting foster care placement” from the definition of homeless children and youth under the McKinney-Vento Act;
 - Students at Chickasha’s Southwest Youth and Family Services are not considered Homeless. They are considered Foster Care.
- Incarcerated Children and Youth – Children and youth who are incarcerated for violation or alleged violation of a law should not be considered homeless, even if prior to their incarceration they would have been considered homeless because they were living in inadequate accommodations. Children and youth who are under the care of the State and are being held in an institution because they have no other place to live should be considered homeless. Once these children or youth are placed in more permanent facilities, they are no longer considered homeless;
- Migratory Children and Youth – Migratory children and youth should not be considered homeless simply because they are children of migratory families. To the extent that migratory children are staying in accommodations not fit for habitation, they should be considered homeless;
- Runaways – Children or youth who have run away from home and live in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, the streets, or other inadequate accommodations are considered homeless, even if their parents have provided and are willing to provide a home for them;
- School-Age Unwed Mothers – In general, if school-age unwed mothers or expectant mothers are living in homes for unwed mothers, and they have no other available living accommodations, they should be considered homeless. However, if they are staying in such a home only temporarily to receive specific health care or other services, and intend to move to adequate accommodations, they are not considered homeless;



- Sick or Abandoned Children and Youth – There are instances where children and youth remain in a hospital beyond the time that they would normally stay for health reasons because they have been abandoned by their families. These children and youth should be considered homeless because they have no other place to live. Children and youth who were homeless prior to hospitalization should be considered to be homeless while they are in the hospital, unless regular and adequate living accommodations will be made available to them upon release from the hospital;
- Throwaways – Throwaway children or youth (i.e. those whose parents or guardians will not permit them to live at home) are considered homeless if they live on the streets, in shelters, or in other transitional or inadequate accommodation.

Potential Warning Signs of Homelessness

While the following are considered common signs, please recognize that they only offer general guidance. There is significant variability within the school-age homeless population. Individual students may differ significantly from the following general characteristics.

- Enrollment at multiple schools, lack of records, gaps in learning, poor/inconsistent attendance, inability to pay fees, poor organizational skills, poor ability to conceptualize;
- Poor hygiene, unmet medical/dental needs, respiratory problems, skin rashes, chronic hunger or food hoarding, fatigue and falling asleep in class;
- Erratic attendance and tardiness, numerous absences, lack of participation in field trips and/or afterschool activities, inability to contact parents;
- Lacking shower facilities/washers, etc., wearing clothes several days, inconsistent grooming;
- Social and behavioral challenges, such as extreme shyness, withdrawal, or aggression; clinginess; poor self-esteem; difficulty with peer and/or adult relationships; poor attention span; developmental delays; fear of abandonment; anxiety late in the school day;
- Consistent lack of preparation for school, incomplete or missing homework, lack of basic school supplies; inability to complete special projects, loss of books and supplies on a regular basis, elevated concern for safety of belongings.



Chickasha Public Schools Responsibilities

The McKinney-Vento Act provides several LEA requirements for serving homeless children and youth. Under section 42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(3) LEAs must:

- Immediately enroll the child or youth, even without records that are normally required for enrollment, or if the child or youth has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness;
- Assist with obtaining immunizations or other required health records;
- Continue a homeless child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness and for the remainder of the academic year, even if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year;
- Enroll the homeless child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend;
- Presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth;
- Consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth;
- Provide a written explanation of the reasons for the decision, including information regarding the right to appeal to the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, if CPS sends the child to a school other than the one requested.
- Enroll the child or youth immediately in the school in which enrollment is sought if a dispute rises over eligibility, school selection or enrollment in a school, pending final resolution of the dispute;
- Provide services comparable to those received by other students in the school.
- Treat information about a homeless child's or youth's living situation with confidentiality, as a student education record;
- Coordinate with local services agencies and other agencies or entities providing services to homeless children and youth and their families, including services and programs funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.



Chickasha Public Schools McKinney-Vento Policy and Procedures

1. The District McKinney-Vento Liaison will work with site principals to determine their site McKinney-Vento Liaison.
2. Due to the fact that the homeless/McKinney-Vento category is self-identifying, it will be necessary for the proper form to be completed at the start of each school year.
3. This form is completed digitally as part of enrollment confirmation or new enrollments.
4. The following steps will be taken by each site as the forms are completed:
 - a. A site liaison will need to be determined and will be responsible for gathering the forms.
 - b. The School Based Social Worker will work with the Enrollment Center to print and set-up site binders which contain the Enrollment Questionnaire.
 - c. Binders are divided by grade level - in alphabetical order
 - d. Qualifying students in a tab at the front of the notebook.
 - e. The site binder will be returned to the School Based Social Worker at the end of each school year.
 - f. Homeless children and youth should not be stigmatized by school personnel or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.
5. Once a student is identified, the site liaison will send a district letter to the family which will include a list of available resources.
6. Students who are identified will be monitored at least every 2 weeks. Things to be considered would be attendance and behavior issues. The site liaison will be responsible for monitoring student progress and needs.
7. In addition, students who are identified will be monitored for extracurricular activities. We need to determine if the fact that they do not have a permanent residence is keeping them from participating. This may include student fees. A student identified as McKinney-Vento may have his/her fees paid with McKinney-Vento or Title I funds. If such funds are not available the fees may be waived by the district.
8. *New enrollees* after the start of school will be as follows:
 - a. Parents/guardians will complete all of the forms digitally. These may be accessed from the district website or at the Enrollment Center.
 - b. Administrative staff and the School Based Social Worker will review forms to determine if students meet the criteria for McKinney-Vento services.
 - c. The School Based Social Worker will update the Student Information System to indicate the student qualifies for services.



- d. The School Based Social Worker will scan and email the Enrollment Questionnaire of qualifying students to the site liaison.
 - e. The original will be sent to the district office and filed in the district notebook for auditing purposes.
 - f. If site staff learns of a change in living arrangements of a student they will work with the site liaison to determine if the student qualifies for McKinney-Vento services.
 - g. A new McKinney-Vento form will be completed and sent to the School Based Social Worker and district office. The status of the student will be updated in the Student Information System.
9. If a student's residency changes to a fixed and permanent resident, the student will continue to qualify for McKinney-Vento services for the remainder of the school year.
10. McKinney-Vento students are afforded the same rights as IDEA students regarding Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Confidentiality. A student's McKinney-Vento status should only be shared with those who have an educational need to assist the student.
- a. Homeless children and youth should not be stigmatized by school personnel or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.
 - b. FERPA outlines to whom records can be released and under what conditions, which can be especially important when enrolling students who are identified as homeless or an unaccompanied youth. FERPA does allow for the transfer of records from one local agency to another without parental consent, as long as the LEA had made a reasonable attempt to notify the parent of the disclosure or includes the district's annual FERPA notification to parents at that school records will be forwarded to enrolling schools. This allows districts to easily get records needed for unaccompanied homeless youth.
 - c. IDEA contains specific timelines that begin as soon as students with disabilities enroll; working with the district's special education department can ensure a smooth transition from homeless students who have disabilities.
11. Due to the fact many students identified as McKinney-Vento move often and struggle to earn credits. Federal guidelines for McKinney-Vento allow for transcribing 9-week credit at 0.25.



Chickasha Public Schools Homeless Liaison Duties

District and Site McKinney-Vento Liaison

- Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the State of Oklahoma will require a parent or guardian of a student, or the student if he or she is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, to complete the form provided by the OSDE for students who are identified as homeless children and youth at the time of enrollment.
- District McKinney-Vento Liaison will be determined by the District Superintendent.
- The District McKinney-Vento Liaison will work with site principals to determine their site McKinney-Vento Liaison

McKinney-Vento District Liaison's Responsibilities

- Review and revise policies or practices that act as barriers - District and Site Liaisons develop, review and revise policies to reduce barriers and support students identified as McKinney-Vento. Identify potential barriers such as but not limited to participating in extracurricular activities, assisting with student fees and equipment which may limit a student's participation.
- Identification and enrollment - Homeless children and youths are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other agencies.
- Link to educational services - Homeless families, children and youth have access to and receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start programs, early intervention services under Part C of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other preschool programs administered by Chickasha Public Schools.
- Link to related services - Homeless families, children, and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
- Provide parents with opportunities to participate in children's education - The parents or guardians of homeless children and youths 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.
- Post public notice - Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to parents and guardians and unaccompanied youth.
- Mediate disputes - Enrollment disputes are mediated.



- Inform parents of transportation services - The parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, and any unaccompanied homeless youth is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin.
- Provide professional development - School personnel who serve homeless children and youths receive professional development and other support.
- Provide opportunities to prepare and assist students for post-secondary opportunities - Unaccompanied homeless youths are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards established for other students, and are informed of their status as independent students and assisted to receive verification of their status for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Ensure accurate data reporting - Complete and submit Federal and State reports.

McKinney-Vento Site Liaison's Responsibilities

- Notification to parent, guardian, youth - Once a student is identified, a district letter will be sent to the family which will include a list of available resources.
- Provide parents with opportunities to participate in children's education - The parents or guardians of homeless children and youths 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.
- Monitor Students - The site liaisons will monitor the progress of identified students at least every two weeks.
- Assist in reviewing and revising policies or practices that act as barriers - District and Site Liaisons develop, review and revise policies to reduce barriers and support students identified as McKinney-Vento. Identify potential barriers such as but not limited to participating in extracurricular activities, assisting with student fees and equipment which may limit a student's participation.
- Link to educational services - Homeless families, children and youths have access to and receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start programs, early intervention services under Part C of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other preschool programs administered by Chickasha Public Schools.
- Link to related services - Homeless families, children, and youths receive referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
- Provide professional development - School personnel who serve homeless children and youths receive professional development and other support.



- Provide opportunities to prepare and assist students for post-secondary opportunities - Unaccompanied homeless youths are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards established for other students, and are informed of their status as independent students and assisted to receive verification of their status for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).



Chickasha Public Schools Dispute Resolution Policy

Parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness may disagree with the District on issues related to McKinney-Vento services, enrollment, and/or school selection. In most cases, issues can be resolved without outside intervention.

When a dispute arises over eligibility, or school selection, or enrollment in a school, the law requires the following minimum procedures:

1. The child or youth “shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals.
2. The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth must be provided with a written explanation of any decisions related to school selection or enrollment made by the school, district or state involved, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth to appeal such decisions.
3. The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth must be referred to the local liaison, who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible.

McKinney-Vento dispute procedures apply to any dispute arising under the Act, including disputes over questions such as:

- Eligibility - Does the child or youth requesting enrollment meet the definition of homeless such that immediate enrollment is required, regardless of missing school records, proof of residency, immunization and other required health records, lack of parent or guardian, or other documentation?
- School Selection - Is it in the child’s or youth’s best interest to continue attending the school of origin or to enroll in the local attendance area school? Does the parent’s, guardian’s, or unaccompanied youth’s preference conflict with the school’s determination of best interest?
- Participation - Is the child or youth attending classes immediately, even if the school has not yet received school records, including special education records, immunization or other required health documents? Is the student provided full participation in school activities? Is enrollment granted immediately in any public school that non-homeless students who reside in the same area as the homeless child or youth are eligible to attend?
- Transportation - Is the school district required to provide transportation to a student in a particular situation? Does the transportation provided permit the child to attend classes and participate fully in school activities?



School District Level

Every effort must be made to resolve the complaint or dispute at the school district level before it is brought to the OSDE. It is the responsibility of the school district to inform the complainant of the district's Complaint Resolution Procedure when a question concerning the education of a homeless child or youth arises.

1. Notify the district's homeless liaison.
 - a. Request a copy of or access to the district board of education policies addressing the education of homeless children and youths and review them. Make an appointment with the homeless coordinator to discuss the complaint.
 - b. If the dispute is not resolved after the initial discussion with the district's homeless liaison, the complainant may file a complaint in writing to the district's homeless liaison for further review.
 - c. In the complaint include a request that a written proposed resolution of the dispute or a plan of action be provided within five (5) days of the date the complaint was received by the district's homeless liaison. A review of the proposal or plan of action with the homeless liaison should follow. The parties may mutually agree on an extension; however, every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest possible time.
2. If the dispute is not resolved at the district homeless coordinator level, the complaint may be forwarded to the superintendent of the district for review followed by a meeting with the superintendent to discuss the dispute. The complainant should request from the superintendent a written resolution within five (5) days of the date of the discussion. The parties may mutually agree on an extension; however every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest possible time.
3. If the dispute is not resolved at the district superintendent level, the complainant may take the matter before the school district board of education for resolution.

State Level

If a dispute is not resolved in a satisfactory manner at the school district level, the complaint may be brought to the OSDE. Complaints made under this process must be made in writing and signed by the complainant. The following steps are to be taken:

1. Address the complaint to the State Homeless Coordinator, Oklahoma State Department of Education, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Include in the complaint:
 - a. A detailed description of the dispute
 - b. The name(s) and age(s) of the children involved



- c. The name(s) of involved school district personnel and the district(s) they represent
 - d. A description of attempts that were made to resolve the issue at the school district level
2. The Team Leader of the Office of Grants Planning will inform the involved school district(s) of the complaint. The team leader or team leader's designee will gather needed information including documentation and statements of the parties and may conduct an independent investigation through an on-site visit if necessary.
3. Within thirty (30) days after receiving a complaint and investigating the complaint, the theme leader will make a determination regarding the allegations on the complaint and will inform the parties, in writing, of the decision. The parties may mutually agree on an extension; however, every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest possible time.
4. If a complainant disagrees with the decision, the complainant may, within ten (10) working days, appeal the decision to the Deputy State Superintendent of Public instructions. This appeal must be in writing and state the reasons why the complainant disagrees with the decision.
5. Within thirty (30) days after receiving the appeal, the Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction will render a final decision and notify the complainant and all other interested parties in writing. Although the standard procedure allows thirty (30) days for response, every effort will be made to resolve the complainant in the shortest possible time.
6. While the dispute is ongoing, the child(ren) in question must be enrolled in and attending school. If the dispute revolves around which school is the school of best interest for the child, the child shall remain in the school they currently attend until the dispute is resolved, unless arrangements already implemented allow the child to attend the school of origin.



FAQS

Q: If a family becomes permanently housed during the school year, does the student's homeless status change?

A: No. They continue to be identified as homeless and receive services for the remainder of the current school year. This includes the right to continue attending the school that they have been attending and receiving services such as transportation, free lunch, fee waivers, etc. The students will then attend the boundary school of their permanent address the next school year. Homeless Liaison should notify the family that the students must attend the boundary school of the new address the next school year.

Q: How do you determine if a student meets the definition of being identified as homeless?

A: The best way to determine if families are eligible is to ask them questions that focus on "is the living situation FIXED, REGULAR, and ADEQUATE".

- FIXED: Stationary, permanent, not subject to change
- REGULAR: Used on a predictable, routine, consistent basis.
- ADEQUATE: lawfully and reasonably sufficient, sufficient for meeting the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment. You can ask yourself: "Can the student go to the SAME PLACE (fixed) EVERY NIGHT (regular) to sleep in a SAFE AND SUFFICIENT SPACE (adequate)?"

Q: How can you determine if a family or unaccompanied youth that is sharing a house with another family meets the definition of homelessness?

A: A family must be sharing the home of others due to economic hardship, loss of housing, or a similar reason. Just because they are living with another family, does not mean that they qualify to be identified as homeless. OSDE - TITLE IX, PART A HANDBOOK 19 Here are some examples: A family chooses to move in with grandma because grandma needs someone to care for her. - does NOT qualify to be identified as homeless. A family moves into Mom's boyfriend's house because she wants to live with him. - does NOT qualify to be identified as homeless. A family was evicted from their home and cannot afford a new place so they are living with an uncle. - DOES qualify to be identified as homeless. A mother and her children are fleeing from a domestic violence situation and are currently living with a friend. - DOES qualify to be identified as homeless.



Q: What does the term “unaccompanied youth” mean?

A: Unaccompanied youth are students who are living WITHOUT a parent or legal guardian. An unaccompanied youth can be difficult to identify. This includes students who were kicked out or who have run away. This does NOT include foster care or any other out of home placements made by the courts. This also does NOT include parents who have made arrangements for their student to live with someone else. Some examples include:

- A student who was kicked out of the home and is currently living with a family member or friend. - DOES qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth and homeless.
- A student who has run away from home and is staying with a family member or friend. - DOES qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth and homeless.
- The parent is currently homeless and the child has to stay with a family member so the child is not in a shelter with the parent. - DOES qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth and homeless.
- The parent is currently incarcerated and an out of home placement has not been made by the courts. - DOES qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth and homeless.
- The parent decided that the student is going to live with a grandparent because mom doesn't want to have her child attend a specific school. - does NOT qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth or homeless.
- Arrangements have been made for a student to stay with someone else, if the parent gives consent for the child to stay somewhere other than with the parent. - does NOT qualify to be identified as an unaccompanied youth or homeless.

Q: If a student is an unaccompanied youth, can they automatically be identified as a homeless student?

A: No. The unaccompanied youth still needs to meet the definition of homeless.

Q: Are children who are awaiting foster care placement still eligible for services under the McKinney-Vento Act?

A: The McKinney-Vento Act no longer includes children and youths who are awaiting foster care placement in the definition of “homeless children and youths.” This means that children who are awaiting foster care placement will no longer be considered homeless and will therefore not be eligible for McKinneyVento services unless they meet the revised definition of “homeless children and youths.”



Contacts:

Chickasha Public Schools Homeless Liaison:

Executive Director of Personnel and Student Services / Federal Programs
405-222-6500

Oklahoma State Department of Homeless Liaison:

Tammy Smith Program Specialist 405.522.3260 Tammy.Smith@sde.ok.gov

Sources for this document:

- *Oklahoma State Department of Education - Title IX, Part A Handbook*
- *National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) nche.ed.gov*
- *SchoolHouse Connection*
- *Schoolhouseconnection.org*
- *McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Act, 42 USC*
- *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), July 31, 2018*
- *Office of Management and Budget (OMB), 2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, December 26, 2013*

Forms and Community Resources

- McKinney-Vento Letter to Families
- Student Enrollment Questionnaire
- Chickasha Public School Board Policy EB
- Best Interest Determination for School Placement
- Dispute Resolution
- Independent Student Status of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Determination for FAFSA and Grant
- Community Resources for students Identified as Homeless





CHICKASHA

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

900 West Choctaw Avenue | Chickasha Oklahoma 73018
(405) 222-6500 | (405) 222-6590 Fax | www.chickasha.k12.ok.us

Dear Parents or Guardians,

If your family lives in any of the following situations:

- In a shelter
- In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus station
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents
- Enroll in local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference.
 - *If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students according to your children's needs.

If you believe your children may be eligible, contact your district liaison, Pam Ladyman at 405-222-6500 or the state liaison at 405-522-3260 to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.

Respectfully,

Chickasha Schools

Home of the Fightin' Chicks

ADMINISTRATION	222-6500	BILL WALLACE ECC	222-6544	HEALTH SERVICES	222-6519
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	222-6562	GRAND AVENUE	222-6524	MAINTENANCE	222-6500
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT	222-6556	HIGH SCHOOL	222-6550	QUALITY ACADEMY	222-6507
FOOD SERVICES	222-6573	LINCOLN	222-6520	TRANSPORTATION	222-6570
		MIDDLE SCHOOL	222-6530		



CHICKASHA

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

900 West Choctaw Avenue | Chickasha Oklahoma 73018
(405) 222-6500 | (405) 222-6590 Fax | www.chickasha.k12.ok.us

Estimados padres o tutores,

Si su familia vive en cualquiera de las siguientes situaciones:

- En un refugio
- En un motel o campamento debido a la falta de un alojamiento alternativo adecuado
- En un automóvil, parque, edificio abandonado o estación de autobuses
- Compartiendo hogar con otras personas debido a la pérdida de vivienda o dificultades económicas

Sus hijos en edad escolar pueden ser elegibles para ciertos derechos y protecciones bajo la Ley Federal McKinney- Vento.

Sus hijos elegibles tienen derecho a:

- Recibir una educación pública apropiada y gratuita
- Inscribirse en la escuela de inmediato, incluso si no tiene los documentos que normalmente se requieren para la inscripción
- Inscribirse en la escuela y asistir a clases mientras la escuela reúne los documentos necesarios
- Inscribirse en la escuela local; o continuar asistiendo a su escuela de origen (la escuela a la que asistieron cuando tenían vivienda permanente o la escuela en la que estuvieron inscritos por última vez), si así lo prefiere.

*Si el distrito escolar cree que la escuela que usted selecciona no es lo mejor para sus hijos, entonces el distrito debe proporcionarle una explicación por escrito de su postura e informarle de su derecho a apelar la decisión.

- Recibir transporte de ida y de regreso de la escuela de origen, si lo solicita.
- Recibir servicios educativos comparables a los que se brindan a otros estudiantes de acuerdo con las necesidades de sus hijos.

Si cree que sus hijos pueden ser elegibles, comuníquese con su enlace del distrito, Pam Ladyman al 405-222-6500 o con el enlace del estado al 405-522-3260 para averiguar qué servicios y apoyos podrían estar disponibles. También puede haber apoyo disponible para sus niños en edad preescolar.

Atentamente,

Chickasha Schools

Home of the Fightin' Chicks

ADMINISTRATION	222-6500	BILL WALLACE ECC	222-6544	HEALTH SERVICES	222-6519
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	222-6562	GRAND AVENUE	222-6524	MAINTENANCE	222-6500
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT	222-6556	HIGH SCHOOL	222-6550	QUALITY ACADEMY	222-6507
FOOD SERVICES	222-6573	LINCOLN	222-6520	TRANSPORTATION	222-6570
		MIDDLE SCHOOL	222-6530		

District Name and Logo	STUDENT RESIDENCY QUESTIONNAIRE	School Year
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PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETE FULLY

No student or family will be discriminated against based upon any of the information provided in this form. The information you provide is confidential. The answers you give will help us determine the services your student may be eligible to receive under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Student Name:		Date of Birth:
School:		Grade:
Person Completing This Form:	Relation to Student:	Phone:
Current Address:		How Long?

	Yes	No
1. Is this current address a temporary living arrangement?		
2. Is this temporary living arrangement due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or domestic violence?		
3. Is the student being enrolled by someone other than parent or legal guardian?		
4. Is the student an unaccompanied youth (not living with a parent or legal guardian)?		
5. Is the student a Foster Child or waiting for Foster Placement?		

If you answered **NO to ALL** questions, please sign and date below. Submit form to school personnel.

➡ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

If you answered **YES to ANY** question above, please complete the remainder of this form.

Please select the option that best describes your current living situation:

- With more than one family in a house or apartment. # Bedrooms: _____ # People: _____
- In a motel/hotel due to lack of alternative, adequate accommodations. Name of motel: _____
- In a shelter/transitional housing. Name of agency: _____
- In a house, building, or trailer WITHOUT running water, electricity, or gas.
- Living with family or friends because you are an unaccompanied youth (not living with parent or legal guardian).
- In a car, campground, abandoned building, or other public place not intended for regular habitation.
- Wherever I can find a place to stay at night.

Please list **all children** (under 21 y/o) currently living with you, including those not yet old enough for school enrollment.

First and Last Name of Child	Relationship to Student	Date of Birth	Grade	School Name

I certify that the information provided above is correct and accurate.

➡ Signature of Person Completing this form: _____ Date: _____

District Name and Logo Nombre del distrito y sello	STUDENT RESIDENCY QUESTIONNAIRE Cuestionario Sobre la Vivienda del Estudiante	School Year Año Escolar
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PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETE FULLY

Favor de lea atentamente y conteste todo el cuestionario:

No student or family will be discriminated against based upon any of the information provided in this form. The information you provide is confidential. The answers you give will help us determine the services your student may be eligible to receive under the McKinney-Vento Act. Ningún estudiante o familia será discriminado en base a la información proporcionada en este formulario. La información que proporciona es confidencial. Las respuestas que dé nos ayudarán a determinar los servicios para los que su estudiante puede ser elegible bajo la Ley McKinney-Vento.

Las respuestas a las siguientes preguntas pueden ayudar a determinar los servicios que este estudiante puede ser elegible para recibir en los términos de la Ley McKinney-Vento 42 U.S.C. 11435. La Ley McKinney-Vento proporciona servicios y apoyo a niños y jóvenes que están en una situación de falta de vivienda. (Vea el reverso para obtener más información)

Student Name: Nombre Completo del Estudiante:		Date of Birth: Fecha de Nacimiento:
School: Escuela:		Grade: Grado Escolar:
Person Completing This Form: Nombre de la Persona completando esta forma:	Relation to Student: Su relación con el estudiante:	Phone: Teléfono:
Current Address: Dirección de Residencia actual:		¿Por cuánto tiempo ha vivido ahí?

	Yes Si	No No
1. Is this current address a temporary living arrangement? 1. ¿Es esta dirección un arreglo de vivienda temporal?		
2. Is this temporary living arrangement due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or domestic violence? 2. ¿Este arreglo de vivienda temporal se debe a la pérdida de la vivienda, dificultades económicas o violencia doméstica?		
3. Is the student being enrolled by someone other than parent or legal guardian? 3. ¿El estudiante está siendo inscrito por alguien que no sea el padre o tutor legal?		
4. Is the student an unaccompanied youth (not living with a parent or legal guardian)? 4. ¿Es el estudiante un joven que no vive con un padre o tutor legal?		
5. Is the student a Foster Child or waiting for Foster Placement?		

6. ¿Es el estudiante un niño de crianza temporal o está esperando la colocación de crianza?		
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If you answered **NO** to **ALL** questions, please sign and date below. Submit form to school personnel.
 Si respondió **NO** a **TODAS** las preguntas, firme y ponga la fecha a continuación. Envíe/entregue el formulario al personal de la escuela.

➡ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
 ➡ Firma del Padre/Tutor: _____ Fecha: _____

If you answered **YES** to **ANY** question above, please complete the remainder of this form.
 Si respondió **SÍ** a **CUALQUIER** pregunta anterior, complete las siguientes preguntas.
 Please select the option that best describes your current living situation:
 Seleccione la opción que mejor describa su situación de vivienda actual:

- With more than one family in a house or apartment. # Bedrooms: _____ # People: _____
- Con más de una familia en una casa o apartamento. # Dormitorios: _____ # Personas: _____
- In a motel/hotel due to lack of alternative, adequate accommodations. Name of motel: _____
- (En un motel/hotel debido a la falta de alojamiento alternativo y adecuado. Nombre del motel: _____)
- In a shelter/transitional housing. Name of agency: _____
- En un refugio/vivienda transitoria. Nombre de la agencia: _____
- In a house, building, or trailer **WITHOUT** running water, electricity, or gas.
- En una casa, edificio o remolque **SIN** agua corriente, electricidad o gas.
- Living with family or friends because you are an unaccompanied youth (not living with parent or legal guardian).
- Viviendo con familiares o amigos porque es un joven no acompañado (que no vive con sus padres o tutores legales).
- In a car, campground, abandoned building, or other public place not intended for regular habitation.
- En un automóvil, campamento, edificio abandonado u otro lugar público que no esté destinado a la habitación regular.
- Wherever I can find a place to stay at night.
- Donde sea que pueda encontrar un lugar para pasar la noche.

Please list **all** children (under 21 y/o) currently living with you, including those not yet old enough for school enrollment.

Mencione a todos los niños (menores de 21 años) que actualmente viven con usted, incluidos aquellos que aún no tienen la edad suficiente para inscribirse en la escuela.

First and Last Name of Child Nombre completo del niño	Relationship to Student	Date of Birth	Grade	School Name Nombre de la Escuela
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	Su relacion con el estudiante	Fecha de Nacimiento	Grado Escolar	

I certify that the information provided above is correct and accurate.

Certifico que toda la información es correcta y precisa

➡ Signature of Person Completing this form: _____ Date: _____
 Firma de la persona que completa este formulario: _____ Fecha: _____

DISTRICT POLICY

ADMISSION, RESIDENCY, PLACEMENT, TRANSFER, AND WITHDRAWAL

Admission: The following students shall be admitted to District if they meet the age, immunization, and good standing requirements set forth in this policy:

- A. Students who are legal residents of District;
- B. Students who have a legal transfer into District;
- C. Students who have been accepted by District on a tuition basis; and
- D. Foreign students who have been accepted by District as Non-immigrant (F-1) Students.

A home-schooled student who wishes to be admitted to District may only be enrolled on a full-time basis. Part-time admission or enrollment is not allowed.

Age Requirements:

- A. Minimum Age: A child must be four (4) years old on or before September 1 in order to enroll in District's early childhood program. A child must be five (5) years old on or before September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten. A child must be six (6) years old on or before September 1 in order to enroll in first grade, unless otherwise entitled to enroll by law.
- B. Maximum Age: All students who have not completed the twelfth grade and are up to twenty-one (21) years old on or before September 1 shall be eligible to attend school in District; provided that upon submitting evidence to the Board of Education showing that the student was unable to attend school because of physical disability or service in the United States Armed Forces or auxiliary organizations by reason of which it was impossible to complete the twelfth grade before the age of twenty-one (21), a student may attend school in District until the student attains the age of twenty-six (26).
- C. Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities may be entitled to attend school from three (3) years of age. District's Special Education Director should be contacted to determine eligibility of students with disabilities for early admission.
- D. Proof of Age: Unless identified as homeless in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, any student who is enrolling in school for the first time shall present upon enrollment a birth certificate which verifies the student's age. If a birth certificate is not presented within four (4) weeks after its request, the student's enrollment may be terminated depending on the circumstances.

Immunization Requirements: No student shall be permitted to enroll in District unless

the student presents to the school at the student's initial enrollment either:

- A. Certification from a licensed physician or authorized representative of the State Department of Public Health that such student has received, or is in the process of receiving, immunizations required by the Department of Public Health, or that such student is likely to be immune as a result of the disease; or
- B. A Certificate of Exemption form stating that the child is exempt from the immunization requirements on the ground that (1) the physical condition of the student is such that immunization would endanger the life or health of a student, signed by a physician; (2) the parent, guardian or person having legal custody of the child objects to such tests or immunizations for religious reasons; or (3) the parents, guardian or person having legal custody of the student claims an exemption for personal reasons. A copy of the Certificate of Exemption will be forwarded to the Department of Public Health for review and approval.

Good Standing Requirement: A student must be in good standing at the time of withdrawal from any previous school in order to enroll in District. A student who has been suspended from a public or private school in the State of Oklahoma or another state for a violent act or an act showing deliberate or reckless disregard for the health or safety of faculty or other students shall not be entitled to enroll in District, and no public school shall be required to enroll such student, until the terms of the suspension have been met or the time of suspension has expired.

Residency Requirements:

Categories of Residency: The following students shall be considered legal residents of District:

1. Students whose parent, legal guardian or legal custodian holds legal residence in District.
2. Students who have been placed in a foster home within District (a) by the person or agency holding legal custody pursuant to court order, or (b) by a state agency having legal custody; provided that the home meets the legal requirements for a "foster home".
3. Qualified students under a Special Power of Attorney as required by the Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Students.
4. Students whose full-time care and custody is provided by an orphanage or a child care facility supported by charity.
5. Students who reside in District and are supporting themselves entirely by their own efforts.
6. Students who have been placed in a public or private residential child care or treatment facility and whose place of legal residence cannot be determined.

7. Students who are homeless persons as defined by the law.
8. Any other students provided for by law.

Procedures for Determining Residency - The following procedures shall be used to determine the residency of a student in District:

1. An admissions form shall be completed for each student initially enrolling to attend school in District. All other students may be requested to complete an admissions registration form at enrollment or at other times at the discretion of the Administration.
2. In determining the residency of a student, the Administration may require proof of residency and/or affidavits or verification of residency. Such proof may include but is not limited to proof of payment of local ad valorem taxes, proof of rental payment or title to residential property in district, utility bill voter or car registration.
3. If a student is denied admission to a school in District by the Administration, the student shall be notified of the reasons for the denial in writing. The student may appeal the denial to District's Residency Officer in writing, stating the reasons for the appeal. District's Residency Officer shall be the Superintendent. District's Residency Officer shall consider the appeal and shall notify the student of the appeal decision in writing, stating the reasons for the decision. The decision of District's Residency Officer shall be final.
4. If a student has been admitted to attend school in District after establishing a bona fide legal residence in District, and thereafter moves and is no longer a resident of the district, the student shall be permitted to complete the current school year; provided that, if District determines that the student did not in fact establish a bona fide legal residence in District, the student's permission to attend school shall be revoked and tuition shall be charged for the days attended.

Residency by Military Order – A student whose parent or legal guardian is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order will be considered in compliance with the residency requirements as provided by law. District shall accept enrollment applications by electronic means, including enrollment in a specific school or program within the District and course registration. The parent or legal guardian shall provide proof of residence in the District within ten (10) days of the published arrival date provided on the official documentation. The following may be provided to show proof of residence:

1. A temporary on-base billeting facility,
2. A purchased or leased home or apartment, or
3. Federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing.

For purposes of this policy:

“Active military duty” means a full-time military duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States including members of the National Guard and Military Reserve on active duty orders; and

“Military installation” means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship or other installation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense or the United States Coast Guard.

Power of Attorney: A parent or legal custodian of a child, through a properly executed power of attorney and without compensation, may delegate to another person, for a period to exceed twenty-four (24) hours but not to exceed one (1) year, certain powers regarding the care and custody of the child as provided in law. The parent or guardian may withdraw or revoke the power of attorney at any time. The attorney-in-fact shall have those powers specified by law, including the right to enroll the child in school and to have access to all education records., or those powers specifically delegated to the attorney-in-fact.

Withdrawals: Students who attend school as resident students may be withdrawn from school:

- A. By the submission of proof that the student’s residence for school purposes has changed or is about to change to another school district;
- B. By the submission of proof that the student has attained the age of eighteen (18);
- C. If the student has attained the age of sixteen (16), upon written agreement between the principal and the parent, guardian or custodian of the student that such withdrawal is in the best interests of the student and/or community, and that the student shall thereafter be under the supervision of the parent, guardian or custodian until the student has reached the age of eighteen (18); and
- D. By administrative action, if the student has had ten (10) consecutive unexcused absences.

Placement and Assignment: Students, including students who have been home-schooled, shall be assigned to a grade level or class based upon an assessment of the student's age, maturity, grades received, standardized test results, and/or abilities in accordance with Administrative Regulations.

Students transferring into District from a school not accredited by the Oklahoma State Department of Education ("OSDE") or enrolling in District immediately after being a home-schooled student, shall be required to take comprehensive written examinations in the subjects studied or grades attended in the nonaccredited school. Results of the examinations will be utilized in determining the academic units or grade levels for which a student is to receive credit. In order for a student to enroll in courses that have prerequisites, the student must have passed the proficiency exam for that prerequisite. Proficiency must be demonstrated by exam on all courses required for graduation from District. Exams will be given only for courses offered at District. Copies of the exams and their results will be placed in the student's file.

A parent or guardian of multiple-birth siblings may request that the children attend the same school and be placed in the same classroom or in separate classrooms if the children are in the same grade level at the same school and meet the eligibility requirements of the class. The parent or guardian must request the classroom placement no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of each school year or fourteen (14) days after the first day of attendance of the children during a school year if the children are enrolled in the school after the school year commences. The school may recommend classroom placement to the parents and provide professional education advice to the parents to assist them in making the best decision for their children's education. A school must provide the placement requested by the children's parent or guardian, unless the Board makes a classroom placement determination following the school principal's request. At the end of the initial grading period, if the school principal, in consultation with the children's classroom teacher, determines that the requested classroom placement is disruptive to the classroom environment, the school principal may request that the Board determine the children's classroom placement.

Placement of Student Victims: Upon the Superintendent's receipt of notice from a juvenile bureau that a student of District has been adjudicated, or that adjudication has been withheld, an offense subject to the Juvenile Sex Offender Registration Act, District shall notify the victim and parent or guardian of the victim of their right to request to be separated from the offender at school and during school transportation. If the victim requests to be separated from the offender, District shall take appropriate action as required by law. The decision of the victim shall be final and not reversible.

Student Transfers: Subject to certain exceptions provided for by law, the transfer of a student from the district in which the student resides to District shall be granted at any time during the school year unless the requested transfer exceeds the capacity of the grade level sought for each school site within the District. District's Board will meet by the first day of January, April, July and October each year to establish the number of transfer students the school has the capacity to accept in each grade level for each school site within the District. District's capacity will be published on District's website and reported to the State Department of Education ("SDE"). District's capacity is as follows:

- **Pre-kindergarten:** No more than 20 students per classroom or 10 students per adult in the classroom.
- **Kindergarten:** No more than 20 students per teacher (excluding PE and Music classes), unless an additional class would have fewer than 10 students or unless a teacher's assistant is hired.
- **Grades 1-3:** No more than 25 students per teacher (excluding PE and Music classes), unless an additional class would have fewer than 10 students or unless a teacher's assistant is hired.
- **Grades 4-6:** No more than 25 students per teacher (excluding PE and Music classes), unless an additional class would have fewer than 16 students.
- **Secondary:** No more than 160 students per day (excludes PE and music classes).

In order for a student to be transferred, the parents of the student must first submit an application form specified by the State Board of Education ("SBE") to the District Superintendent. If the capacity of a grade level for each school site within the District is insufficient to enroll all eligible students, District shall select transfer students in the order in which District received the student transfer applications.

A transfer may be denied if it will exceed enrollment capacity, or for student discipline as provided for in § 24-101.3 or for attendance issues. "Attendance Issues" are defined as ten or more absences in one semester that are not excused for the reasons provided in 70 O.S. § 10-105 or due to illness. District will begin receiving applications for the subsequent school year on or after January 1st each school year. District will not approve or deny transfer applications until after the Board's July 1st capacity determination.

All student transfers previously granted will remain in effect unless the District takes action to deny a future year's attendance based on discipline or attendance issues as previously provided for herein. If District intends to deny a student's continued transfer, the parents or guardians will be notified by or before July 15th. If the grade a student is entitled to pursue is not offered in the student's resident district, the transfer will be automatically approved.

A student whose parent or legal guardian is employed by the District may be allowed to transfer to the District regardless of capacity. In addition, any student who has attended school as a resident student for at least three (3) years prior to moving out of the District may be allowed to transfer regardless of capacity, provided that the student does not meet a criteria for denial as provided for herein.

Any child in the custody of the Department of Human Services ("DHS") in foster care who is living in the home of a student who transfers to the District may attend the District as provided for by law.

The brother or sister of a student who transfers to District may attend school in the District regardless of capacity and so long as the brother or sister does not meet a criteria for denial as provided herein. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received by the District and a separate application must be submitted for each student who desires a transfer.

On or before the first day of January, April, July and October, the Superintendent will file with the SBE and each resident district a statement showing the names of the students who were granted transfers, their resident districts and their grade levels.

If a transfer request is denied by the District, the parent of the student may appeal the denial to District's Board within ten (10) days of the notification of the denial as provided for by law and regulation. District's Board will consider the appeal at its next regularly scheduled board meeting so long as the appeal is received prior to the statutory deadline for posting the Board agenda. If the appeal is not received prior to the deadline for posting the agenda, the Board shall schedule a special meeting to consider the appeal. The appeal process will be paper-only and the review of the documents will take place in executive session in order to protect student privacy. During executive session, the Board will review written documentation from the Superintendent regarding reasons for the transfer denial and information from the parent/guardian regarding why the transfer should have been approved. The vote to uphold or reject the Superintendent's transfer denial will be held in open session.

If the Board upholds the denial, the parent may appeal the denial to the SBE within ten (10) days of the notification of the Board's decision. The SBE will adopt guidelines for this process.

Special Education and Gifted Education Transfers: Transfers regarding these students will be considered in accordance with law and SDE regulations.

Military Parent Transfers: Students who are dependent children of a member of the active uniformed military services of the United States on full-time active duty status and students who are the dependent children of a member of the military reserve on active duty orders shall be eligible for admission to the District regardless of its capacity if: a) at least one (1) parent of the student has a Department of Defense-issued identification card; and b) at least one (1) parent can provide evidence that he or she will be on active duty status or active duty orders, meaning that the parent will be temporarily transferred in compliance with official orders to another location in support of combat, contingency operation, or a natural disaster requiring the use of orders for more than thirty (30) consecutive days.

McKinney-Vento Act: The Education for Homeless Children and Youth ("EHCY") program is authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ("McKinney-Vento Act"), as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act ("ESSA"). The mission of the EHCY program at the Oklahoma State Department of Education ("OSDE") and District is to ensure educational equity and success for students experiencing homelessness by providing support according to the McKinney-Vento Act.

Homeless children and youth are defined as those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis as provided for in the Student Handbook. The District McKinney-Vento Liaison is Pam Ladyman and may be reached at 405-222-6500. Each site will also have a McKinney-Vento liaison, who can be reached through the Administration office at each school site.

The McKinney-Vento Act provides homeless children and youth the following rights:

1. To immediately enroll in school;
2. To attend school in school of origin or in the attendance area where the family currently resides;
3. To receive transportation to school of origin if requested by parents/guardians/unaccompanied youth and is in the best interest of the child;
4. To receive comparable services as other schoolmates including but not limited to transportation and supplemental services;
5. To attend school along with children who are not homeless;
6. To have their rights posted in all schools and other places around the community that low-income families and high-risk families may visit.
7. To be free of segregation and stigmatization with the nature of their living situation remaining confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”).

District Responsibilities: Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the State of Oklahoma will require a parent or guardian of a student, or the student if he or she is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, to complete the form provided by the OSDE for students who are identified as homeless children and youth at the time of enrollment.

District will immediately enroll the child or youth, even without records that are normally required for enrollment, or if the child or youth has missed application or enrollment deadlines during a period of homelessness. District will assist with obtaining immunizations or other required health records. District will presume that the school of origin is in the child’s best interest and will continue such enrollment even if the child becomes permanently placed during the academic year unless contrary to the request of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth. District will enroll the homeless child or youth with non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is living and eligible to attend. District will consider student-centered factors related to the child or youth’s best interest and will provide a written explanation of the reasons for the decision, including information regarding the right to appeal if District sends the child to a school other than the one requested. District will enroll the child or youth immediately in the school in which enrollment is sought if a dispute arises pending final resolution of the dispute and will provide services comparable to those received by other students in the school. Information regarding the homeless child or youth’s living situation will be confidential and coordination efforts with local agencies providing services to homeless children or youth and their families will be made.

Dispute Resolution: Parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness may disagree with District on issues related to McKinney-Vento services,

enrollment, and/or school selection. In most cases, issues can be resolved without outside intervention. When a dispute arises over eligibility, school selection, or enrollment and cannot be resolved independently, the following procedures will be invoked:

- The child or youth “shall be immediately enrolled in school in which enrollment is sought, pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals.
- The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth must be provided with a written explanation of any decisions related to school selection or enrollment made by the school, district or state involved, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth to appeal such decisions.
- The parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth must be referred to the local liaison, who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible.

McKinney-Vento dispute procedures apply to any dispute arising under the McKinney-Vento Act, including disputes over questions such as: eligibility, school selection, participation, and transportation. Every effort will be made to resolve the complaint or dispute at the District level before it is taken to the OSDE. District will inform the Complainant of District’s Complaint Resolution Procedure when a question concerning the education of a homeless child or youth arises.

1. Notify District’s homeless liaison:
 - a. Request a copy of or access to District’s Board policies addressing the education of homeless children and youth and review them. Make an appointment with the homeless liaison to discuss the complaint.
 - b. If the dispute is not resolved at the point, Complainant may file a complaint in writing to District’s homeless liaison for further review.
 - c. Complaint should include a request that a written proposed resolution of the dispute of a plan of action be provided within five (5) days of the date the complaint was received by the homeless liaison. A review of the proposal or plan of action with the homeless liaison should follow. An extension may be mutually agreed upon; however, every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest time possible.
2. If the dispute is not resolved at the District homeless liaison level, the complaint may be forwarded to the Superintendent for review followed by a meeting with the Superintendent to discuss the dispute. The Complainant should request from the Superintendent a written resolution within five (5) days of the date of the discussion. The parties may mutually agree upon an extension; however, every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in as short a time as possible.
3. If the dispute is not resolved at the Superintendent level, the complainant may take the matter before the Board for resolution. If this effort for resolution fails, the complaint may be taken to the OSDE.

Adopted: September 14, 2020

Revised: August 3, 2021; October 25, 2021; November 8, 2021; June 8, 2022; August 14, 2023

McKinney-Vento

Best Interest Determination (BID) for School Placement

The McKinney-Vento Act requires schools to consider the school of origin as the first option in school enrollment. Parents may choose the school of origin or the school in the residency area where the child is currently living. Individuals who may be consulted when determining what placement is in the child's or youth's best interest include:

- the child or youth experiencing homelessness,
- the parents or caretakers of the child or youth,
- school division homeless liaisons,
- school principals/administrators,
- the student's teacher(s),
- homeless shelter personnel,
- school social workers,
- school counselors, and
- the student's attorney.

It is the school district's responsibility to determine the school of origin and residency, and to resolve any conflict concerning the school placement focusing on the best interest of the student. Whenever possible, the school district should comply with the parents'/guardians'/unaccompanied homeless youth's wishes. If the school district and parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth do not agree on the appropriate placement, the district's Enrollment Dispute Resolution Process must be followed. The student should be enrolled in the school that the parent or unaccompanied homeless youth have chosen until the resolution process has been completed. If the school of origin is determined to be the best placement, the local homeless education liaisons from both divisions must work together to arrange transportation.

The McKinney-Vento Act requires that a child or youth experiencing homelessness attend:

- ❖ *The school of origin:* the school that the child or youth last attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled, including preschool (administered by the district) and feeder schools; or
- ❖ *The school of residency:* the school identified by the attendance zone in which the student is currently physically staying. (IF students in the attendance area have additional options, the student may enroll in such an option IF there is room in the program and student meets any eligibility criteria).

Whether the child or youth will attend the school of origin or the school of residency, enrollment should take place immediately.

The following form documents the determination for school placement that is in a student's best interest. It is recommended that the liaison use these listed considerations to discuss the school enrollment options with the parent/youth. If the new residence is in another school district, the liaison from the new district should be included in the conversation, as a best practice, to endure smooth transitions or the provision of transportation that may be shared. The information collected documents agreement about school enrollment OR provides the input needed to craft the justification for a written explanation should the parent/youth disagree. Liaisons should maintain this form with their case notes.

**McKINNEY-VENTO
BEST INTEREST DETERMINATION FORM
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF STUDENT IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT**

A copy of this document shall be kept in the student's education record.

Student's Name: _____
 Student State Testing Number (STN): _____ DOB: _____
 Current School: _____ Grade: _____
 Previous School(s): _____
 Date of Best Interest Determination Meeting: _____

Best Interest Determination: A Checklist for Decision Making

Use the following checklist as a guide to assist with making the determination of what is in the best interest of the child or youth. Place a check in the box for each area of consideration that applies, either in the Remaining in the School of Origin column or Transferring to a New School. If needed, write notes on additional pages and attach to this form.

Remaining in the School of Origin Considerations

- Social/emotional considerations** – the student's social and emotional wellbeing will be negatively affected if transferred to a new school (considerations include age of the student, location of siblings, etc.)
- Length of anticipated stay in an out-of-home placement location** – in light of the anticipated short duration of the stay, the student would benefit from the continuity offered by remaining at the school of origin where meaningful relationships exist.
- Continuity of instruction** – the student has experienced frequent school changes or has attended the school of origin for an extended period of time, and would be best served by remaining at the school of origin (considerations include credits necessary for graduation and preparation for future instruction).
- Academic performance** – the transfer will significantly and adversely affect the student's academic performance.
- Unique educational needs or academic and extracurricular interests** – the student's special educational needs (IEP or 504 Plan) or unique academic and extracurricular interests cannot be met at the potential receiving school.
- Safety of the student** – the school of origin is a safe environment for the student.
- Transportation considerations** – the advantages of remaining in the school of origin outweigh any potential disadvantages presented by the length of the commute.

Transferring to a New School Considerations

- Social/emotional considerations** – the student's social and emotional wellbeing will be positively affected or will be substantially affected if transferred to the potential receiving school (considerations include age of the student, location of siblings, etc.)
- Length of anticipated stay in an out-of-home placement location** – the student's current living situation appears to be stable and unlikely to change suddenly, so the student will benefit from establishing new relationships with school peers in the potential receiving school.
- Continuity of instruction** – the student has not attended the school of origin for very long and will be best served at the potential receiving school (considerations include credits necessary for graduation and preparation for future instruction).
- Academic performance** – the transfer will not significantly and adversely affect the student's academic performance.
- Unique educational needs or academic and extracurricular interests** – the student's special educational needs (IEP or 504 Plan) or unique academic and extracurricular interests can be met at the potential receiving school.
- Safety of the student** – the new school will be a safer environment for the student.
- Transportation considerations** – the length of the commute to the school of origin is excessive and may adversely affect the student's concentration, attitude, or readiness for school.

Attach all documents relevant to the student's best interest determination. Check any that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report Cards/Progress Reports | <input type="checkbox"/> IEP Plan or 504 Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement Data (test scores) | <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence from individuals consulted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance Data | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Appendix 8.A Written Notification of Decision

This form is to be completed by the school when a disagreement arises between the school and a parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth over McKinney-Vento eligibility, school selection, or enrollment in a school.

Date: _____

Name of person completing form: _____

Title of person completing form: _____

Name of school: _____

In compliance with 42 U.S. C. § 11432(g)(3)(E) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the following written notification is provided to:

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Name of Student(s): _____

After reviewing your request regarding eligibility, or school selection, or enrollment in a school for the student(s) listed above, the request is denied. This determination was based upon:

You have the right to appeal this decision by completing the second page of this form or by contacting the school district's local homeless education liaison.

Name of local liaison: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

In addition:

- The student listed above has the right to enroll immediately in the requested school pending the resolution of the dispute.
- You may provide written or verbal communication(s) to support your position regarding the student's enrollment in the requested school. You may use the form attached to this notification.
- You may contact the State Coordinator for Homeless Education if further help is needed or desired. Contact information for the State Coordinator:
- You may seek the assistance of advocates or an attorney. A copy of our state's dispute resolution process for students experiencing homelessness is attached.

Written Notification of Decision

To be completed by the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth when a dispute arises. This information may be shared verbally with the local liaison as an alternative to completing this form.

Date:

Student(s):

Person completing form:

Relation to student(s):

I may be contacted at (phone or e-mail):

I wish to appeal the enrollment decision made by:

Name of School:

I have been provided with (please check all that apply):

_____ A written explanation of the school's decision.

_____ The contact information of the school district's local homeless education liaison.

_____ A copy of the state's dispute resolution process for students experiencing homelessness.

Optional: You may include a written explanation in the space below to support your appeal or you may provide your explanation verbally.

The school provided me with a copy of this form when I submitted it. _____
(Please initial.)



Making Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Determinations: A Tool for Financial Aid Administrators

This form may be completed by a financial aid administrator (FAA) who is evaluating a student's eligibility for independent student status. There is no official federal form that FAAs are required to use for unaccompanied homeless youth determinations; this form is provided as an optional tool to assist with this task. For official guidance related to unaccompanied homeless youth and federal financial aid, see the Application and Verification Guide (AVG) portion of the most current [Federal Student Aid Handbook](#).

The following information provides guidance to assist FAAs in making a determination if a student seeking independent student status as an unaccompanied homeless youth comes to the attention of a FAA. It is important to note that, while comprehensive, this tool may not adequately represent every homeless situation experienced by youth. As a result, it is important that FAAs make case-by-case determinations to ensure that students are able to receive the maximum amount of aid for which they are eligible.

According to the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), the definition of independent student includes youth who are 1) unaccompanied and homeless, or 2) unaccompanied, self-supporting, and at-risk of homelessness. The HEA uses the [McKinney-Vento Act's definitions of homeless](#), which includes youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and *unaccompanied*, which includes youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. The HEA also uses *at-risk of homelessness* to refer to students whose housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate.

Student Name:

Identification Number:

FAA Acceptance of Determinations by Other Parties

A school district homeless liaison or the director or designee of an emergency shelter, basic center, or transitional living program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) is authorized to determine that a student is eligible for independent student status as an unaccompanied homeless youth. In that instance, no further action is required to confirm a student's status as independent.¹

FAA Determination Based on Third-Party Documentation

As mandated by the HEA, if a determination by any of the parties listed in the previous section cannot be made, the FAA must make the determination of unaccompanied and homeless status, or unaccompanied, self-supporting, and at risk of homelessness status.

- Does the student have documentation that attests that he/she has experienced homelessness at any time since July 1, 2023 from a homeless shelter or service provider, FAA from another college, college access program such as TRIO or GEAR UP, college or high school counselor, mental health professional, social worker, employer, mentor, doctor, clergy, or other relevant third party? Yes No

If yes, list the contact and relationship to the student:

Summary of information provided by the third party:

If the FAA feels that additional supporting documentation is needed, he/she may request contact information for the third party listed above to follow-up by phone or email.

FAA Determination Based on a Documented Interview

If third party documentation is not available, a documented interview conducted by the FAA is sufficient to confirm that a student qualifies as independent as an unaccompanied homeless youth.² The FAA may make the determination based on the following information:

- In which of the following situations does the student currently reside or in which would the student reside if not staying in on-campus housing³ (you may choose more than one):

¹ According to the AVG, if the FAA disagrees with an authority's determination, the FAA must accept the determination, but may contact the authority's oversight agency to evaluate the authority's determination.

² According to the AVG, the determination may be based on a documented interview with the student if there is no written documentation available.

³ According to the AVG, the definition of *homeless* includes students living in the school dormitory if they would otherwise be homeless.

Motel

Shelter or other temporary housing program

Car

Substandard housing⁴ (housing that is insufficient to meet the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment)

Campsite

Temporarily staying with others because the student has nowhere else to go

2. If the student is living with another household, check all of the following reasons that apply:

Loss of housing

Economic hardship resulting in inability to secure and maintain fixed, regular, and adequate housing

Other (including, for example, when it is not safe for a youth to live with a parent or guardian, when a parent or guardian has forced a youth to leave home, and other situations of abuse or conflict):

It may be helpful to ask students who are staying with others where they would live if they could not stay at their current location. If the student replies that he/she would be living in one of the situations listed above (motel, car, etc.), or is not sure where he or she would stay, the student does not have fixed, regular, and adequate housing, and therefore meets the definition of *homeless*.

If the student is living in any of these situations, and is not under the care of a parent or guardian, he or she meets the definitions of *homeless* and *unaccompanied*, and qualifies as an independent student. According to the AVG, youth fleeing abuse and living in one of these situations may be considered homeless, even if the parent would provide support and a place to live.

FAA Determination: Considerations for Students Who Are Self-Supporting and At Risk of Homelessness

1. Is the student self-supporting? (Self-supporting means the student is responsible for his or her own living expenses, including fixed, regular, and adequate housing.) Yes No

2. Is the student's housing likely to cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate? Is the student at-risk of homelessness due to eviction or other loss of housing? Yes No

If the student answers "yes" to both of these questions, and is not under the care of a parent or guardian, he or she meets the definition of an *unaccompanied youth who is self-supporting and at risk of homelessness*, and qualifies as an independent student.

Action Taken

Independent student status confirmed

Independent student status not confirmed; please explain:

Print Name

Signature (required)

Title

Date

Strengthening Student Retention through Referrals to Supportive Services:

Students experiencing homelessness may benefit from connections to other campus and community supports. Please note below any referrals you made to assist this student with academic, student life, medical, mental health, and/or basic needs.

⁴ For more information on substandard housing, see NCHC's *Determining Eligibility for Rights and Services Under the McKinney-Vento Act* brief, available at <https://nche.ed.gov/resources/>.





Resource Guide for Students and Families

CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Chickasha, Oklahoma

211 Community Resource Line | Call 211

A comprehensive source of information about local resources and services. 24/7. Helps with bills, rent, food, and diapers.

Access Health Clinic | 902 W Chickasha Ave. | 405-224-4977

Call after 2:30 PM on Thursdays to schedule an appointment

No walk-ins. Free Medical.

ACT|www.act.org

Resources and prep materials for the ACT exam. See school counselor for ACT waiver (one per year, Junior and Senior years.)

Adult Education | Lisa Johnson | 405-222-6562

High School Equivalency/GED/Diplomas. Adult basic education classes, English as a second language class.

Army Recruit | United States Army | 200 SW C Ave. Suite 93, Lawton, OK | 580-355-1022

Service to country and advance your goals, over 150 career choices, college loan repayment, financial aid for school.

Baby Mobile (Infant Crisis Services) | infantcrisis.org

Serves Grady County monthly. To check schedule go to website and click on "Baby Mobile".

The Baby Mobile provides a formula, food, and diaper pantry. Offers assistance to children from birth to age three.

Bible Baptist | 226 S. 29th St. | 405-224-1569

RU Recovery at 6:00 PM on Fridays.

Byte and Associates | 117 S. 7th | 405-222-4786

Counseling Services, SoonerCare accepted.

Catholic Charities Lawton | 106 SW A Ave. | 580-353-1811

Call to schedule appointment.

Birth certificates, ID's and assistance programs. (Will work within Chickasha area).

Cherokee Nation | 17675 S. Muskogee Ave. Tahlequah, OK | 918-453-5300 or 800-256-0671

Provides a number of important services to its citizens and to other Native Americans.

Chickasaw Nation Headquarters | 520 E. Arlington Ada, OK | 580-436-2603

Provides programs and services to benefit and improve the lives of Chickasaw citizens worldwide.



Resource Guide for Students and Families

CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Chickasaw Nation Headquarters (Cont.)

Chickasaw Nation Parenting Education Program - The parenting education program provides high quality and up-to-date parenting information to those interested in learning more. This course teaches families nurturing behaviors and how these behaviors can work within their unique family environment.

Chokka Chaffa' (One Family) - A program that is a home-based service for Native American families identified as being at-risk.

Chickasha High School Food and Clothes Pantry | 101 John Cowan Dr. | 405-222-6550

Chickasha Hotel Apartments | 102 N. 2nd St. | 405-224-1640

Income based apartments, 12-month lease, No smoking, No pets, Tenant pays electric only.

Chickasha Public Library | 526 Iowa Ave | 405-222-6075 | chickashapl.okpls.org

Books and other materials to check out, Free books to download, On-Line Databases, Material Requests, Family History Materials, Trained Helpful Staff, Scanning services, Notary services, Free Wi-Fi.

Chickasha Red Rock BHS | 804 W. Choctaw | 405-222-0622 | www.red-rock.com

Redrock has interpreters available to help families access services such as Counseling services, outpatient services, residential services, prevention services, pharmacy services, crisis services, telepsychiatry.

Systems of Care-Provides community based, family-driven, youth guided, and culturally competent services statewide.

Wraparound- Plans are designed to meet the needs of caregivers and siblings and to address a range of life areas.

Chickasha Rehabilitation (ORS) | 1000 W. Choctaw Ste 2 | 405-224-0709

Vocational Rehabilitation, Visual Services, Disability determination services, Oklahoma School for the Deaf, Oklahoma School for the Blind.

Chickasha Soup Kitchen | 520 W. Pennsylvania | 405-519-6542 | www.chickashasoupkitchen.org
Monday- Friday 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Dynamic Workforce | 205 W. Chickasha Ave. Ste 104 | 405-224-3310

Winter Elliott | 405-320-9029 | wintere@scworkforceboard.org

Career planning, Supportive services, Tutoring, Work experience, Comprehensive guidance and counseling, Case management, Occupational skills training, Leadership development, Online GED tutoring and practice tests, Objective assessment, Free online CEC approved courses.



Resource Guide for Students and Families

CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Country Park Apartments | 1601 Henderson | 405-222-0909 or 405-582-3929

www.liveatcountrypark.com

Low income housing – required documents original birth certificate, social security card, ID, and 6 months of pay stubs or income.

Epworth United Methodist | 320 S. 4th St. | 405-224-3320

Food available once per month on a Wednesday from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Utility assistance.

First Baptist Church Food Pantry | 324 W. Colorado Ave. | 405-224-5196

Last Saturday of every month, starts at 7:00 AM.

Grady County Health Department | 205 W. Chickasha Ave. Ste 1 | 405-224-2022

General clinic, Immunizations, WIC, Family Planning, Sooner start/Early intervention, Consumer health, Emergency preparedness.

Heidi Helping the Homeless | 428 S. 3rd | 405-779-0889

Open Monday-Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Blessing boxes, Access to Showers, Washer, and Dryer. Thrift store.

Intervention and Crisis Advocacy Network (ICAN) | 1501 Minnesota | 405-222-1818

Grady County 24/7 crisis line, Crisis intervention, Emergency Shelter, One on one personal and compassionate support assistance, Support groups, Courthouse advocacy, Hospital Advocacy, Referrals to resources such as meals and necessities.

Life Choices | 1201 W. Choctaw | 405-222-5438

Pregnancy test and ultrasound, Parenting, life skill and fatherhood classes, STD/STI testing and treatment, Information about all pregnancy options. All services are 100% free. Learn to earn.

Michigan Avenue Baptist Church | 728 W. Michigan Ave. | 405-224-5379

Tuesday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM or by appointment

Clothing, Food, Showers, Back to school assistance, Document assistance, Financial assistance, Free dinner and Bible study on Wednesday's at 6:00 PM.

Narcotics Anonymous hosted Thursdays at 7:00 PM.

The Muscogee Nation | Jamie Rolland | 918-732-7979 or 918-732-7967

jmrolland@muscogeenation.com

Youth prevention specialist center for victim services.

Oklahoma Human Services/TANF | 323 W. Chickasha Ave. | 405-574-7400 | OKDHSLive.org

Daycare assistance, Supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP/Food stamps), Child support services, SoonerCare.



Resource Guide for Students and Families

CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Options Counseling | 415 W. Iowa | 405-222-3018

Individual counseling, Marriage counseling, Family and group counseling, Grief counseling, Substance abuse, Domestic Violence, Anger management, Adoption home studies and more. Accepts SoonerCare.

Parkview Christian Church | 2828 S. 9th St. | 405-224-3027

*Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Utility assistance.*

PSO (Smart Pay...Pay as you go) | 1-888-216-3523 | www.psoklahoma.com

Program will help get electricity turned back on, if shut off.

SafeCare (Program of NorthCare) | Denra Riley | 21 N.W. 44th St., Suite 100 | 608-208-0367
www.northcare.com

SafeCare is a free, home based parenting support program with the goal of reducing stress for caregivers. SafeCare provides education on parenting, health, safety and communication skills along with connecting families to community resources.

Salvation Army of Grady and Caddo Counties | 2402 S. 16th | 405-224-5647

*Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM
Client choice food pantry, Utility assistance, Hygiene kits, Thanksgiving food, Christmas toys, Back to school shoes and socks, Christian education, Women's and men's ministries, Residential camping activities, Worship services: Sunday school, youth ministries, and church.*

Social Security Office | 506 W. Utah | 1-877-622-9096 | www.ssa.gov

*Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Assistance with all social security needs, such as, ordering social security cards, survivor benefits, disability payments.*

Southwest Youth and Family Services | 198 E. Almar Dr. | 405-222-5437

Angel project, Batterer's intervention program, Southwest kids (Free after school program), Drug court, First time offender's program, Gambling care, and individual and family services.

Southern Oaks Church of Christ Food and Clothing Room | 112 S. 5th St. | 405-224-1821

Open Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM for clothes and 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM for food. Provides free food, clothing and household items (no voucher required), Please bring mail showing proof of residency, can provide Goodwill vouchers may be provided if needed household and clothing items are not available.



Resource Guide for Students and Families

CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Chickasha, Oklahoma

Resurrection House and Life Skills Institute | 701 W. Colorado | 405-224-5413 or 866-277-4788

Check in time is 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM for the Resurrection House.

Offers free overnight shelter, a life skills training program and a work readiness program.

Sooner Success | Janet Wilson | 405-595-1958 | Janet-m-wilson@ouhce.edu

Assist families who have a child with special needs birth to age 21.

South Central Medical Center | 2222 W. Iowa | 405-756-1414

Community health center providing medical services to the medically underserved populations.

Washita Valley Community Action Council | 1000 W. Minnesota | 405-224-5831

Leane Howell- Executive Director | 405-224-5831 ext. 105 | Lhowell@washitavalleycac.com

Chickasha Headstart | 405-222-0172

Washita Valley Transit Services | 405-222-3438

Chickasha Early Headstart | 1304 S. 6th St. | 405-224-3471 | Center Director- Twanette Wear

Washita Valley Headstart and Early Headstart offer free education, health, nutrition, family support, and disability services for children ages birth to five. Washita Valley Transit is a low-income ride share for Chickasha and surrounding areas. Must be scheduled ahead of time. \$2.50 per person, per ride, per stop within the city of Chickasha.

Whispering Pines | 1404 Frisco Ave. | 405-224-8540

Income based apartments.

YMCA of Greater Oklahoma | 725 W. Chickasha Ave. | 405-297-7735

Monday- Thursday 5:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Fridays 5:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Health and wellness, school aged childcare (scholarships available).

Updated March 2024