

## Browning Public Schools

Policy # 3125

Policy Name: *Education of Homeless and Foster Care Children*

Regulation: -----

### Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless child **are entitled to** ~~has~~ equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The trustees must assign and admit a child who is homeless to a school in the District regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment. The trustees may not require an out-of-District attendance agreement and tuition for a homeless child.

### Education of Children in Foster Care

Each foster child is entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The trustees must assign and admit a child who is in foster care to a school in the District regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the foster child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment.

The superintendent or designee shall review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children, **foster children**, and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residence, birth certificates, school records and other documentation.

Homeless students **and students in foster care** shall have access to services comparable to services offered to other students, including but not limited to:

1. Transportation services;
2. Educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria (e.g., Title I);
3. Educational programs for children with disabilities and Limited English Proficiency;
4. Programs in vocational and technical education, as well as programs for gifted and talented students; **and**
5. School nutrition program.

The superintendent or designee shall give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school. The superintendent shall appoint a liaison for homeless children **as well as a foster care point of contact for students in foster care.**

A “homeless child” is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

A “child in foster care” is defined as a “24 hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians for whom the child welfare agency has placement and care responsibility.” (ESSA, 2017)

A complaint regarding the placement or education of a homeless child **or foster child** shall first be presented orally and informally to the District’s homeless liaison/~~coordinator~~ **and the foster care point of contact**. Thereafter, a written complaint must be filed in accordance with the District’s Uniform ~~Grievance~~ **Complaint** Procedure.

**Cross Reference:** ~~#3215-1700~~ Uniform **Complaint** Grievance Procedure

**Legal Reference:** 42 U.S.C. § 11431, et seq. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act  
§ 20-5-101, MCA Admittance of Child to School

**Policy History**

Adopted on: 4/28/04

Amended on: 2/23/22