



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

Office of Accountability
Title I School & Community Services
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NYS FIELD MEMO
NCLB McKinney-Vento
05 – 2011

September 2011

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

From: Roberto Reyes 
Director Title I School and Community Services

Subject: Mandatory McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Training

As our State continues to reel from the economic crisis of the past few years and, in some areas, endure weather-related devastation, New York's children and families have been some of the hardest hit in the nation. Housing instability, oftentimes caused by high unemployment and foreclosure, is one of the largest symptoms that we are seeing. From 2008-09 to 2009-10, school districts across the state have reported an increase of 14% in the number of students identified as homeless.

To ensure that all NYS school districts are aware of their responsibility to identify eligible homeless students as well as provide services to help them succeed in school, the New York State Education Department (SED) is **requiring your school district's participation** at one of this year's *McKinney-Vento Workshops*. Superintendents, LEA McKinney-Vento liaisons, CSE chairs, registrars, school counselors, social workers, principals, transportation directors, school attorneys and Title I Directors are among those who would most benefit from attending one of these workshops.

These free of charge, one-day trainings are planned for:

- **Albany:** November 21, 2011
- **Binghamton:** October 12, 2011
- **Buffalo:** December 7, 2011
- **Long Island:** October 25, 2011
- **Rochester:** December 6, 2011
- **Syracuse:** December 5, 2011

To register, please visit the NYS-TEACHS website: www.nysteachs.org

Workshop sessions will include: an introduction to McKinney-Vento and related NYS Education laws, liaison responsibilities, transportation of homeless students, a panel of formerly homeless youth, and other timely regional topics relating to students experiencing homelessness.

Please note that your expected attendance at workshops is not limited exclusively to representatives of currently funded McKinney-Vento programs. All LEAs in the State that receive and administer federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) funds are required to comply with the McKinney-Vento Act and have appointed an LEA homeless liaison to ensure compliance with federal McKinney-Vento requirements.

Finally, please be aware that McKinney-Vento funds or Title I, Part A funds can be used for travel-related expenses and staff replacement costs related to your attendance at one of the workshops. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Melanie Faby at (518) 473-0295, or NYS-TEACHS at 1-800-388-2014, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. I thank you for your anticipated support and look forward to your participation.

c. M. Faby