



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
05-2013

September 2013

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, 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 2011-12, school districts across the state have reported an increase of 17% 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* or webinar hosted by our technical assistance center, NYS-TEACHS. 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 events.

The free of charge, half-day Workshops are planned for:

- **Melville, Long Island:** November 19
- **Albany:** December 10
- **Syracuse:** December 12

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.

The free of charge webinars are scheduled for throughout the year and last one and a half hours.

The professional development sessions will include: an introduction to McKinney-Vento and related NYS Education laws, liaison responsibilities, transportation of students in temporary housing, a panel discussion with youth who were homeless, access to early childhood education for students in temporary housing, school stability for students in foster care, funding sources for instructional and transportation services for students in temporary housing, the rights of homeless unaccompanied youth who are homeless, McKinney-Vento and disaster preparedness, and other timely topics relating to students experiencing homelessness.

To register for a webinar or workshop, please visit the NYS-TEACHS website: www.nysteachs.org.

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