

OCPS McKinney-Vento Dispute Process

Federal regulations require that all school districts adopt their own procedures for receiving and resolving disputes pertaining to transition of children and youth experiencing homelessness as identified under the McKinney-Vento Act.

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the child/youth must be immediately enrolled in the school in which he/she is seeking enrollment and provided all rights under the McKinney-Vento Act, pending resolution of the dispute. Enrollment is defined as "attending classes and participating fully in school activities." School bus transportation requests will be submitted upon the determination of homelessness if requested by the parent/guardian, however bus passes may be provided for transportation during the dispute decision making process.

If a parent/guardian/Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY) is denied McKinney-Vento rights and would like to dispute the decision made by the school site or a district liaison, he or she must contact the OCPS McKinney-Vento Program office at 407-317-3485 or email helphomeless@ocps.net to state that they would like to dispute the decision.

The OCPS McKinney-Vento administrative team will review the case and if the district office agrees with the initial denial, will provide the parent/guardian/UHY with an official denial letter via mail and/or email.

The parent/guardian/UHY will have 14 days to respond by providing the denial dispute forms and any additional information regarding the situation. The OCPS McKinney-Vento administrative team will make a second review of the case and respond with a decision within 10 business days.

If the parent/guardian/UHY is still not in agreement with the OCPS McKinney-Vento Office's decision, a written complaint must be provided to McKinney-Vento Program, Senior Administrator, 445 West Amelia Street, Orlando, Florida 32801 or emailed to helphomeless@ocps.net. The OCPS McKinney-Vento program will forward all written documentation and related paperwork to the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) at the state level via mail to: Director of Homeless Education Program Florida Department of Education 325 West Gaines St., Room 352 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 PHONE: 850-245-0668 FAX: 850-245-0697.