

McKinney-Vento Student Rights

One of the most important goals of Bowie Unified School District is to provide an educational environment that treats all students with dignity and respect. Every homeless student shall have equal access to the same free and appropriate opportunities as students who are not homeless.

All homeless students have the right to:

- **Immediate school enrollment** - Each school must immediately enroll students even if they lack health, immunization or school records, proof of guardianship, or proof of residency. This would include enrollment in the following school options:
 - The school he/she attended before his/her family became homeless
 - The school in which he/she was last enrolled
 - The school in the same attendance area where he/she is currently residing
- **School choice** - A homeless student can remain enrolled in his/her selected school for as long as he/she remains homeless or, if the student becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year
- **Equal participation** - Schools must offer equal participation in tutoring programs, special education services, gifted and talented programs, before and after school programs, school-related activities, and/or other support services
- **Free school meals**
- **Community information**
- **Transportation services**

Dispute Resolution Process

STEP 1: If you disagree with the decision of school district officials, you may appeal and file a complaint with the school district. The complaint must be filed in writing with the district Homeless Liaison, at P. O. Box 157, Bowie, Arizona 85605. A final decision from the district Homeless Liaison will be delivered to you in writing within seven business days.

Please provide the following information:

- Student name

- Name of person completing the form and relationship to the student
- Contact information (phone/email)
- The reason you are appealing the decision
- A detailed explanation regarding what rights you feel the school or district has not honored

STEP 2: If you disagree with the final decision of school district officials, you may appeal and submit a dispute with the Arizona Department of Education.

To review the dispute resolution process please view this document:

<https://www.azed.gov/schooleffectiveness/specialpops/homeless/disputeresolution.asp>