

HOMELESS FAMILY INFORMATION

The Definition of Homelessness

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Act provides a definition of homeless children and youths to be used by state and local educational agencies (LEAs). It defines homeless children and youths to be those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Under the larger umbrella of lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, the law also provides several examples of situations that meet the definition. The examples include children and youths

- sharing housing due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- living in hotels, motels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate housing;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- abandoned in hospitals;
- living in a public or private place not designated for, or normally used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar places;
- living in one of the above circumstances and who are migratory according to the definition in Section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [42 U.S.C. § 11434a(2)].

If you are experiencing any of these situations, please contact the Highland Park ISD Homeless liaison, Rala Underwood, at (806) 335-2821 or rala.underwood@hpisd.net.

Highland Park ISD is committed to continuing service to all students during this time. Please contact the school for information on different services that are provided to students experiencing homelessness. We can connect you with school and community resources.

Highland Park Secondary School-(806) 335-2821

Highland Park Elementary School-(806) 335-1334