

McKinney-Vento Act Federal and State Law

The McKinney-Vento (MV) Act defines “children and youth” as individuals **who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.**

Due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason, you may qualify for the MV Act if you are **temporarily**:

- **Living with a friend or family member**-*due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason*
- **Living in a shelter, emergency shelter, transitional shelter or similar setting**-*due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason*
- **Living in a hotel/motel or campground due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations**-*due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason*
- **Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings**-*due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason*

Some qualified **unplanned** reasons why you are temporarily without a permanent residence (this year since [August 2020](#)):

- **a house fire** and you had to relocate
- **a marshal deemed your home unlivable** and you had to relocate
- **kicked out of your home (by a landlord, significant other/partner, parent/guardian/caregiver)** and you had to relocate
- **a divorce/break-up** and forced to relocate
- **had to leave your home due to violence** and you had to relocate
- **eviction** and you had to relocate
- **staying from house to house or couch to couch temporarily** and you had to relocate
- **a natural disaster** and you had to relocate
- **shut off of light and gas** and you had to relocate
- **parent/guardian/caregiver passes away or become incarcerated** and you have to relocate

This can happen to any of us, at any time. You are not alone! The MV program is here to help you.

If you think this may be you or someone you know, resources and support are available. Please contact Shynea Paris, District Liaison to Students in Transition, at 203.346.3511, extension 3 or sparis@waterbury.k12.ct.us.