



Site: Buena

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

1340 TANYARD ROAD • SEWELL, NJ 08080
TELEPHONE: (856) 468-6530 x1053 • FAX: (856) 468-0851

McKINNEY-VENTO REGIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

FOR STUDENTS IN GLOUCESTER, CAMDEN, ATLANTIC, AND BURLINGTON COUNTIES

This is to verify that for as long as my child(ren) is/are eligible for Gloucester County Special Services School District McKinney Education Program services, I give permission to the district staff or representatives to provide supplemental instructional health and supportive services to my child(ren).

Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Local Student I.D. N.J. Smart (SID)	School	Grade

I am willing to assume full responsibility for my child(ren)'s safety in connection with McKinney Education-funded or related activities.

I also hereby authorize the public or private school district to release to the Gloucester County Special Services School District McKinney Program all records relating to my child(ren), including academic, health and dental information.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Parent's/Guardian's Names: _____

Present Address: _____

Present Phone Number/email address: _____

School District: _____

The McKinney-Vento Program may be able to provide assistance in the following areas. Please check areas of need, if any:

___ Backpack/School Supplies

___ Temporary Transportation to/from School

___ Tutoring

___ Counseling Referral

___ Advocacy Services

___ Declined McKinney-Vento Services

Student's Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Student's Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

The questionnaire is intended to assist district personnel with the identification of students eligible for services under the McKinney Vento Act, 42 USC 11435.

Is your current address a temporary living arrangement? _____ Yes _____ No

Is this temporary living arrangement due to loss of housing or economic hardship? _____ Yes _____ No

If you answered YES to the questions above, please complete the remainder of the form. If NO, you may stop here.

1. Where is the student/family currently residing? (Please check one)

	In a motel/hotel Name and address of motel/hotel: _____
	In a shelter Name of shelter: _____
	In a place not designed for ordinary sleeping accommodations (car, park, abandoned building, or campsite)
	Student is an unaccompanied child or youth who meets the definition of the McKinney Vento Act and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian
	In a doubled-up residence with another family (please answer the questions below): Address of temporary residence: _____ I am residing with: _____ Relationship: _____ I moved to this residence on: _____
	Other (please explain): _____

2. What date did you move to your current residence? _____

3. The reason I am in my current situation is: _____

4. What was your previous permanent address? _____

5. Where else have you lived since you left your last permanent residence? _____

6. Previous school attended: _____

Attention Parent/Guardian: The State of New Jersey requires us to notify and bill your former school district for your child's tuition if you are in a homeless situation. This information is confidential and does not affect your child's enrollment. However, if you file a fraudulent claim, you may be held liable for the student's tuition. You must notify the Registration Office when you reestablish a permanent residence. Under the McKinney-Vento program, your child may be eligible for additional assistance through Gloucester County Special Services. Release forms are available in the Registration Office.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CC: BRSD Homeless Liaison

WHAT IS THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM?

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program is a federally-funded program that provides supplemental instructional and support services for homeless children and youth, with the goal of enabling them to meet the same rigorous academic standards set for all children, despite the challenges encountered as a result of not having a permanent living situation. Becoming homeless is highly disruptive to students in many ways, manifested by school absences, changes of schools, difficulty in transferring school records, lack of adequate clothing, food, and shelter, anxiety and social/emotional issues, and even health related problems.

WHO'S MCKINNEY-VENTO ELIGIBLE?

School-aged children and youth and preschoolers who are currently without a fixed, regular or adequate night-time residence may qualify for program services, according to the program guidelines. Qualifying situations may include children residing in:

- Temporary shelters, including domestic violence and transitional living shelters
- Hotels and motels
- "Doubled-up" housing, where one family is living with another due to loss of housing stemming from financial problems
- Other public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation, such as abandoned buildings, cars, vans, camping areas, etc.
- Transitional housing for families

We need your help in identifying eligible homeless children. To make a referral, or for further information or assistance, please contact us at:

Billie Thomas
Director

bthomas@gcecnj.org

Stefanie VanderMeer
Program Manager
svandermeer@gcecnj.org

Vincent Deluca

Intervention/Resource Specialist
Counselor/Social Worker
vdeluca@gcecnj.org

Dalaine Wilson
Intervention/Resource Specialist
dwilson@gcecnj.org

Nichole Simmons-Graham
Intervention/Resource Specialist
nsimmonsgraham@gcecnj.org

Wanda Spraker
Health Specialist
wspraker@gcecnj.org

Stewart B. McKinney-Vento
Homeless Education
Program



Operated by

Gloucester County Special Services
School District
1340 Tanyard Road
Sewell, NJ 08080

(856) 468-6530, ext. 1053

COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT (GCCSSD)

Since January 1996, GCCSSD's McKinney-Vento Project has provided supplemental services to more than 10,000 homeless children and youth in Gloucester, Camden and Atlantic Counties. As of July 1, 2020, our program has expanded to include Burlington County. Our primary objective is to help children and youth continue to maintain their academic levels while they are homeless, through supplemental tutoring and advocacy services. A number of other related services are available as well.

▪ **TUTORING**

Supplemental tutoring is provided after school or sometimes during the school day, twice each week. Our tutors assist students with their homework assignments, reinforce basic skills, and address problem skill areas. They also focus on study skills and organizational skills. In addition, they incorporate esteem-building activities into the tutoring sessions and often act as mentors. This is our most requested service.



▪ **ADVOCACY**

Assistance is offered to both parents and school districts to ensure that homeless students are in the appropriate classes and grade levels and are receiving the services available to them. Resources and referrals are made available as needed, including having Intervention Resource Specialists accompany parents/guardians to a conference or meeting.

▪ **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

Homeless children participating in our program are furnished with all the school supplies they need – from backpacks & lunch boxes to paper, pencils and calculators.



▪ **SUPPLEMENTAL TRANSPORTATION**

Supplemental transportation services to/from school are provided for a brief period while districts are making their own arrangements. When no other resource is available, after-school transportation is arranged and provided to homeless children who want to participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities. This helps assure integration with their non-homeless peers.



▪ **COUNSELING**

Weekly counseling sessions are provided, usually in group sessions. Topics may include anger management, dealing with grief, peer pressure, self-esteem, goal setting, etc. One-on-one counseling and individual family counseling is available through referral on an as-needed basis.

▪ **AWARENESS SESSIONS**

To raise awareness of and sensitivity to the unique needs of homeless students, the project periodically schedules workshop sessions with a variety of school personnel throughout the county, including teachers, guidance staff, social workers, nurses, secretaries and district homeless liaisons. Sessions are held countywide or can be arranged for individual districts or schools.

▪ **PARENT ACTIVITIES**

Several times each year we schedule parent workshops for the homeless parents involved in our program. A variety of topics are presented, such as stress management, role modeling, health issues, the importance of encouraging your child to read, and being involved in your child's education. We also provide dinner, babysitting, books for both children and adults, and door prizes. In addition, we encourage parents to get involved in their children's weekly tutoring sessions and their education in general.

▪ **HEALTH SERVICES**

Upon the identified need, our McKinney-Vento Intervention Resource Specialists assist with scheduling appointments for health services such as immunizations, eye exams, eyeglasses and dental exams. We can also coordinate to provide transportation to and from these appointments. When necessary, we can assist with service payment.