

Pierre Indian Learning Center

Homeless Student Policy

What Homeless Families Need to Know

- **Homeless children have the right to attend school.**
- **You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.**
- **Your child cannot be denied school enrollment just because school records or other enrollment documentation are not immediately available.**
- **Your child has the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, or local programs for which he/she is eligible.**

In order to ensure that homeless students have equal access to the same free appropriate public education as provided to other students, the following shall apply:

Homeless students are individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and include the following:

1. Students who are sharing the housing of other persons, due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason; are living in motel, hotels trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement.
2. Students who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
3. Students are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings.
4. Migratory students who meet one or the above described circumstance.

ENROLLMENT/PLACEMENT

The PILC selected shall enroll the homeless student, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, immunization records, proof of residency or other documentation. However, the PILC will require a parent or guardian of the student to

submit contact information, and the school will work with the supplied contacts to acquire the documentation needed for enrollment and ISEP verification.

SERVICES

Each homeless student shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students, in the district including, but not limited to, transportation services; educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria, such as education programs for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities and gifted and talented students; vocational programs and technical education; school meals programs; before-and-after school care programs and programs for students with limited English proficiency. Homeless students will not be segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school based on the student's status as homeless.

TRANSPORTATION

In the event that it is in the best interest of the homeless student to attend the PILC, transportation to and from school shall be provided by the PILC. The PILC will assume the transportation costs of homeless students four times yearly (August, December, January, May.)

RECORDS

Any records ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records and evaluations for special services or programs of each homeless child or youth shall be maintained so that appropriate services may be given the student, so that necessary referrals can be made and so that records may be transferred in a timely fashion when a homeless student enters a new school district. Copies of records shall be made available upon request to students or parents in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

COORDINATOR

The Board designates the following individual to act as the district's homeless coordinator:

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