HOMELESS
But not helpless.

The MPS Homeless Education Program (HEP) is here to help homeless children and youth succeed in school.

We can help you by providing:

■ Transportation to the school you attended before you had to move
■ FREE breakfast and lunch
■ Books and school supplies
■ School fees
■ Immunization information
■ Tutoring and homework help
■ Before- and after-school programs and activities
■ Translation and ESL services

If you require further assistance, contact the Homeless Education Program office at

(414) 475-8911

Department of Student Services
5225 W. Vliet Street, Room 133
Milwaukee, WI 53208
(414) 475-8911  FAX (414) 777-7803
http://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/
**Homeless Education Program (HEP)**

The HEP is here to help homeless children and youth succeed in school.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was created to make sure that homeless children have the same opportunity to be successful in school as non-homeless children.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines homelessness as lacking a “fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”

**Who is homeless according to the McKinney-Vento Act?**

**A Children, youth and/or families are homeless if they are:**

- Living doubled up with another family due to loss of housing or other hardship
- Staying in shelters, including domestic abuse shelters
- Awaiting foster care placement
- Living in locations such as:
  - Motels
  - Hotels
  - Cars
  - Parks
  - Abandoned buildings

**What do I do if I am forced to move from my home?**

**A You should do the following:**

- Contact your MPS homeless coordinator at (414) 475-8911 to get help in enrolling your children in a new school or to keep your children in the school they were attending before you moved.
- Tell your new school what will help your children succeed.
- Ask the MPS homeless coordinator for help in getting food, clothing, and school supplies.

**What do I do if I am homeless?**

**A If you are in a homeless situation ask to speak to your MPS school’s Homeless Contact person to assist you in getting your needs met and arranging services.**

**How can the Homeless Education Program help?**

**A The HEP explains your rights and helps you get the following services at no cost:**

- Enrollment assistance, including help in obtaining needed school and medical records and immunizations
- Transportation (when eligible)
- Free breakfast/lunch
- Tutorial programs
- Before- and after-school programs
- Books and school supplies
- Waiver of school fees
- Preschool/early education programs
- Translation and ESL services
- Referral to social services agencies, community resources, and other related services that can assist homeless families with basic needs
- Assistance with the appeal process if you feel your rights have been denied

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_“Before the HEP my kids were failing school. They had to switch schools three times in one year. When I tried to keep them in a school after I had to move, they missed a lot of days because I couldn’t always get them there. Now, thanks to the HEP, they get to stay in their school and have a bus. The HEP also helped out with school supplies, clothing, and lots of other things. Now my children love going to school and are passing all of their subjects!”_ – MPS Parent