



SPPS - Education of Homeless Students

Date of Origin: 6/30/22

Modification Date(s):

Date of Last Review: 11/12/24

I. Purpose

To outline the process to identify and address the needs of homeless children participating in the UCP Special Purpose Private School program.

II. Policy

UCP of Maine recognizes the importance of promptly identifying homeless children served in the Special Purpose Private School, in order to identify and eliminate barriers to attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations. The federal law governing homeless students is the McKinney-Vento Act, and although it does not apply to private schools, UCP will follow the guidelines included in this policy to ensure homeless youth needs are met. In compliance with this law, UCP works to ensure that homeless students are guaranteed the right to a free, appropriate, education.

UCP will ensure that homeless children have equal access to the same educational programs and services offered to other students. It is UCP's policy that no student will be discriminated against, segregated or stigmatized based on their homeless status.

III. Definitions

Homeless children means individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and includes children in the following situations:

- a. Sharing housing with other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- b. Living in motels, hotels, campgrounds, or similar due to the lack of alternative, adequate accommodations;
- c. Living in emergency, transitional or domestic violence shelters;
- d. Abandoned in hospitals
- e. A primary nighttime residence that is public, or a place not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation
- f. Living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or similar settings

IV. Responsibilities

The school Administrator is responsible for serving as or designating a liaison for homeless students.

The liaison is responsible for ensuring outreach and coordination with local social service agencies, state and local housing agencies, and other agencies and staff to address the needs of the student who is homeless.

School staff are responsible for the provision of services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.



Scott Tash, CEO



Date