

**The McKinney-Vento Act
As Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015**

Scenario 1

It is November 14, 2016. Sam is a 17-year old senior at McKinney High School. He is staying temporarily with friends in the district and enrolled in McKinney on the first day of school as an unaccompanied youth. Sam missed a lot of school last year, and he is behind on credits. But he has been working hard so far at McKinney, showing a strong focus to graduate and attend college. If he sticks with it, and with some partial credits from last year, he will be able to graduate in May. Sam has made friends and bonded with his school counselor.

Sam's father came to McKinney yesterday to meet with you. He wants Sam to return to his school of origin, which is just a few blocks away from the father's house. He also wants Sam to return to his home as soon as possible. He said the school of origin is better for Sam because it is close to his home and has a strong credit recovery program, and Sam's only been at McKinney for a few weeks. Regardless, he is demanding that you withdraw Sam from McKinney so he can enroll him back in his neighborhood.

1. Under McKinney-Vento, whose wishes receive priority in making best interest determinations for unaccompanied youth?
2. On balance, which school do you think is in Sam's best interest?
3. What process do you need to follow with Sam's father?
4. How can Sam's counselor work with the previous school district to award Sam partial credits for coursework he completed last year?
5. Can the school district liaison submit a letter to the financial aid office of the local college stating that Sam is an unaccompanied homeless youth? What if Sam has unpaid fines from last school year, and school district policy prohibits releasing any school records to colleges for students with outstanding fines?
6. Can Title IA funds be used to pay for Sam to participate in an on-line credit recovery program?

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Scenario 2

It is November 14, 2016. Brittany attends Vento school district's preschool program. She and her mother were evicted from their apartment last week. With no family shelter in the community, Brittany and her mother are staying with an ex-boyfriend in a neighboring school district. The new district does not have a preschool program.

1. Can Brittany continue attending Vento's preschool? What factors must be considered?
2. Does Brittany have the right to transportation to Vento's preschool? What are some strategies to provide her with appropriate transportation?
3. Now suppose conditions in the ex-boyfriend's home deteriorate, and in January, Brittany's mother sends her to live with a cousin 100 miles away. The cousin's school district has a preschool program, but the enrollment deadline for the new semester was December 1.
 - a) Can Brittany enroll in the preschool?
 - b) Who can enroll Brittany in the preschool?
 - c) Can Brittany attend preschool while the preschool is waiting to receive her immunization records?
 - d) If the preschool has a breakfast and lunch program, can Brittany receive free meals?