



#### **Our Students. Their Moment.**



### Amendments to 100.2(x) of the Commissioner's Regulations pertaining to the education of children and youth who are homeless

New York State Board of Regents, May 9, 2017

#### Students in Temporary Housing in NYS, SY 2015-16



## McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and NY Education Law 3209

- McKinney-Vento (MV) first enacted in 1987 and reauthorized in 2015 as a part of ESSA. Amendments to MV went into effect October 1, 2016.
- On April 20, 2017, the Governor signed into law amendments to Education Law 3209 that implement the ESSA changes. The amendments went into effect immediately.
- Core MV protections remain unchanged:
  - Continued enrollment & transportation to school of origin
  - $\odot$  Immediate enrollment in local school
  - $\odot$  Free school meals
  - $\circ$  Title I services
  - $\odot$  McKinney-Vento liaison in every LEA





### Key Changes in McKinney-Vento

- 1. School of origin includes preschool and feeder schools (transportation must be provided to children in preschool if it is a school of origin)
- 2. School selection best interest determination must prioritize wishes of parent/youth
- 3. Children awaiting foster care placement are no longer considered homeless under MV
- 4. Enrollment deadlines must be waived
- 5. LEAs must ensure continued enrollment pending final resolution of dispute
- 6. LEAs must award full or partial credit for completed coursework
- 7. LEAs must ensure access to academic and extra-curricular activities
- 8. LEAs must eliminate barriers related to outstanding fees, fines, and absences
- 9. LEAs must provide transportation for the remainder of the school year
- 10. LEAs must ensure that youth who are homeless have access to counseling to improve their readiness for college
- 11. There are increased privacy protections for information related to students who are homeless
- 12. There are new responsibilities for McKinney-Vento Liaisons
- 13. McKinney-Vento Liaisons may affirm eligibility for HUD homeless assistance
- 14. LEAs must coordinate special education services for students who are homeless
- 15. LEAs must provide data to NYSED about students experiencing homelessness
- 16. LEAs review and revise policies to improve the identification of children and youth experiencing homelessness



#### Amendments to Education Law 3209

- 1. Elimination of awaiting foster care placement from definition of homeless;
- 2. Updated definition of school district of origin to include preschool;
- 3. New definition of feeder school and receiving school;
- 4. New definition of preschool;
- 5. New definition of school of origin;
- 6. New language about best interest decision-making;
- 7. New requirements about designation forms, transportation, and local departments of social services;
- 8. New transportation requirements for remainder of the school year, terminal grade, summer school, and extracurricular activities;
- 9. Updated language about dispute resolution; and
- 10. New language about privacy of information about students who are homeless.



# Proposed Amendments to Commissioner's Regulations, Section 100.2(x)

- 1. Incorporates the changes made in Education Law 3209 (previous slide).
- 2. Requires that designation forms be completed and given to the MV liaison for the district where the child is seeking enrollment within 2 business days.
- 3. Requires that the Department of Social Services give completed designation forms to the school district within 2 business days.
- 4. Requires that the district train the liaison or designee who will be responsible for making best interest determinations regarding school selection.
- 5. Includes the MV liaison responsibilities as described in federal law.





# July 1, 2017: The proposed amendments to 100.2(x) will go into effect as an emergency action if approved by the Regents.

September 2017: The proposed amendments will become effective as a permanent rule if approved by the Regents.

Ongoing:

The Department and its technical assistance center (NYS-TEACHS) will continue to provide support to the field about the changes to federal and State law concerning students experiencing homelessness.

