

ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS¹

As required by law, the Shaker Regional School District (SRSD) shall ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.² The SRSD shall work with homeless students and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless students not currently attending school. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible. The Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the SRSD's liaison for homeless students and their families.³

1.1 Definition

Homeless students⁴ are defined as lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. Are abandoned in hospitals;
5. Awaiting foster care placement;
6. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
7. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings;
8. Are migratory children living in conditions described in previous examples.

1.2 Enrollment

To the extent feasible, homeless students will continue to be enrolled in their school of origin while they remain homeless or until the end of the academic year in which they obtain permanent housing. Parents or guardians of homeless students may request of the administration enrollment in the school in which attendance area the student is actually living. The administrator shall respond to request within 48 hours.

1.3 Enrollment Dispute

If there is an enrollment dispute, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The parent or guardian shall be informed of the SRSD's decision and their right of appeal. Unaccompanied youth will also be enrolled pending resolution of the dispute. Once the enrollment decision is made, the school shall immediately enroll the student, pursuant to SRSD policies

¹ NH RSA 193:12

² No Child Left Behind Act of 2002, Part C Homeless Education, Section 721 (1)

³ No Child Left Behind Act of 2002, Part C Homeless Education, Section 722 (g), (1), (J), (ii)

⁴ No Child Left Behind Act of 2002

1 **1.4 Student Records**

2 If the student does not have immediate access to the immunization records, the student
3 shall be admitted under a personal exception. Students and families shall be encouraged
4 to obtain current immunization records or immunizations as soon as possible, and the
5 SRSD liaison is directed to assist in this effort. Records from the student’s previous
6 school shall be requested from the previous school pursuant to SRSD policies.
7 Emergency contact information is required at the time of enrollment consistent with
8 SRSD policies.

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10 **1.5 Transportation**

11 Homeless students are entitled to transportation to their school of origin or the school
12 where they are to be enrolled. If the school of origin is in a different district, or a
13 homeless student is living in another district but will attend his or her school of origin in
14 the SRSD, the districts will make reasonable efforts to coordinate the transportation
15 services necessary for the student.⁵

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17 **1.6 Coordination of Services**

18 The SRSD’s liaison for homeless students and their families shall coordinate with local
19 agencies that provide services to homeless children and youths and their families; other
20 school districts on issues of transportation and records transfers; and state and local
21 housing agencies responsible for comprehensive housing affordability strategies.⁶ The
22 SRSD’s liaison will also review and report to the Shaker Regional School Board policies
23 that may act as impediments to the enrollment of homeless students.

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25 The Superintendent shall publish Rules and Procedures to implement this policy.

⁵ P.L. 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Part C Homeless Education, Section 722 (g), (1), (J), (iii), (II)

⁶ P.L. 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Part C Homeless Education, Section 722 (g), (5), (A-C)