**Transportation Options for Parents and/or Youth
Template**

**Instructions for Use**

Transportation policies must provide students experiencing homelessness with transportation comparable to those students that are not experiencing homelessness [ESSA §722(g)(4)(A)]. The policy must ensure that transportation is provided at the request of the parent or guardian (or, in case of an unaccompanied youth, the local liaisons) to or from the school of origin, even during enrollment disputes [ESSA §722(g)(3)(E))(i)].

The LEA is responsible for student transportation to the school of origin—the school they were enrolled in when they became homeless, no matter where they are residing. Families experiencing homelessness also have the option of attending a school in their neighborhood, which is the school of choice.

Use this resource as a guide for the LEA when developing a transportation plan with the parent or guardian. **Before finalizing and sharing any part of this resource with the parent or guardians** Place this document on LEA letterhead, delete or update all red font areas, and provide the most up-to-date McKinney-Vento Liaison contact information. LEAs must keep a hard copy of each developed transportation plan on file.

Red text is provided as an example. Adapt or replace these clauses to meet the LEA’s needs.

**Transportation Options**:

* **Walk Zone**: Students living within the “walking zones” within ***1 mile for elementary, 2 miles for middle, and 2.5* miles for high school,** will continue to walk to school like other students living within the same boundary limitations.
* **School Bus Stops**: Students who ***reside close enough to the pre-established school bus route*** (or those who have transportation from their place of residence to a nearby bus stop) will continue to use that method and will not be considered for extended transportation services. It should be considered only if the student happens to be in a situation where a bus route is already available and convenient.
* **Personal Vehicles**: This option is for a parent/guardian/student that ***has a personal vehicle***. Persons transporting the student must have a valid driver’s license and automobile insurance for the car being driven. Payment to the person providing the transportation will be in the form of a ***pre-loaded gas card, the amount is determined by the program and based on attendance. The amount is subject to change based on the current cost of gasoline.***
* **School Buses**: School bus service is rarely a reasonable option since it is usually the most involved, most expensive, and least flexible option. Temporary changes to bus routes tend to negatively affect other students/schools too seriously to be implemented effectively. If a student is on an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) with transportation writing into it, please let your Educational Liaison know.