

FY27 McKinney-Vento Subgrant Guidance & Updates

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Programs and Oversight*



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Agenda

- McKinney-Vento Subgrant Purpose
- FY26 Fiscal Guidelines (FER)
- FY27 McKinney-Vento Subgrant Application
 - Budget Guidelines
 - Allowable Use of Funds
- Subgrant Timeline
- Subgrant Monitoring & Reports
 - Mid-Year Performance Review
 - Closeout Report
- Quarterly Calls & Office Hrs.
- Monitoring, Homeless Rights Posters, & Related Documents
- Resources & Support

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McKinney-Vento Subgrant Purpose

McKinney-Vento Subgrant

- The purpose of the McKinney-Vento subgrant is to facilitate the enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youth.
- Subgrant Guidelines:
 - Services provided can not replace regular academic programming.
 - Services must be designed to expand upon or improve the school's regular academic programs.

McKinney-Vento Subgrant Cycle

- The McKinney-Vento Subgrant runs on a three (3) year cycle.



- Subgrantees will receive an allocation in FY26 (2025-26), **FY27 (2026-27)**, and FY28 (2027-28)





FY26 Fiscal Guidelines

Final Expenditure Report (FER)

- The FY26 Final Expenditure Report (FER)
 - Covers expenditures incurred between the day funds were awarded and **June 30, 2026**.
 - Due before **Oct. 1, 2026**, in ePlan.
- Liaisons should work with their local education agency's (LEA's) fiscal team to ensure the FER is complete.
- More detailed instructions for completing the FER can be found [here](#).
- Please note that until the **FY26** FER is Fiscal Approved, all funds will be drawn from **FY27** funding.

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FY27 McKinney-Vento Subgrant Application

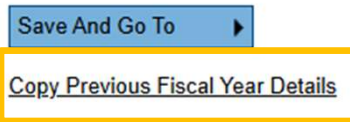
FY27 Funding Application

- There are minor changes to the **FY27** McKinney-Vento Subgrant application in ePlan.
- Liaisons should submit an initial **FY27** budget no later than **Aug. 31, 2026**.
- If major changes or shifts need to be made in the programming as it was written in the approved initial subgrant application, LEAs may complete the Plan Adjustment Justification embedded in the **FY27** subgrant application.

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Cover Page

- If no updates are needed to the **FY27** Cover Page, click the Copy Previous Fiscal Year Details at the top left corner of the application.



- Next, select Keep Changes



Program Pages

- Sections for Part I, II, IV, V, VII, & VIII have been turned off.
- Once you have clicked on Part III Goals, Activities, and Outcomes & Part V Personnel, you will see Copy Previous Fiscal Year Details. Select this option if no changes need to be made from the previous year.

Save And Go To ▶

Copy Previous Fiscal Year Details

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New Fiscal Year

- An assurance that the **FY27** budget aligns with the approved **FY26** application.

* New Fiscal Year Assurances	
☐	I have completed and aligned the current budget to the approved original competition subgrant application.

- Revisions Needed: If major changes or shifts need to be made in the programming as it was written in the approved initial subgrant application, select the revisions needed box and complete the follow-up questions.

	Title IX McKinney-Vento
	Cover Page
	Budget
	Budget Overview
	Budget Tag Summary
	New Fiscal Year Assurances and Budget Change Form

Plan Adjustment Justification Form

* New Fiscal Year Assurances

☒ I have completed and aligned the current budget to the approved original competition subgrant application.

☐ ☒ I have completed the current budget and would like to make a revision to the initial approved application. - Complete the Plan Adjustment Justification Form below.

Plan Adjustment Justification Form

* Briefly describe adjustments/changes being made to your budget and a rationale for each.

Check Spelling

0 of 36000 characters

* How will these changes impact the Goals, Outcomes, and Objectives that were set in the original application? If changes need to be made to the goals, please explain and create a new goal below.





Budget Guidelines & Allowable Use of Funds

General Budget Guidelines

- All proposed expenditures must be:
 - **Reasonable:** The proposed goods and services are not excessive in cost and are based on prudent and sound purchasing practices.
 - **Necessary:** The goods and services are essential for carrying out the grant program.
 - The need for the goods and services should also be supported in the McKinney-Vento Subgrant Application.
 - **Allocable:** The goods and services are specifically for the benefit of the grant and meet the program's intent and objectives.

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Budget Narrative Requirements: Things to Consider

- A good budget narrative should be specific enough to determine the allowability and reasonableness of expenditures:
 - How is it supplemental?
 - What types of items are being purchased?
 - How many items are being purchased?
 - What activities are being funded?
 - Who will participate in activities?
 - What students are being targeted for the service?
 - When will activities take place?
 - Are services being contracted? Through whom?
 - What specific professional development? How many will attend?

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Budget Narrative Requirements

- When budgeting funds for supplies and materials, include details about what will be purchased.
 - Include examples of all equipment, materials, and supplies, and what they will be used for.
- When budgeting funds for professional development, please include details about what will be purchased.
 - Include a description of the professional development (PD) that will be provided and what exactly will be purchased (e.g., conference, registration, PD materials, stipends, travel)

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Allowable Activities, Part 1

- **Tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational services** that are linked to the achievement of the same challenging state academic content standards and challenging state student academic achievement standards that the State establishes for other children and youths.
- **Professional development** and other activities for educators and personnel that are designed to heighten the understanding and sensitivity to the needs of homeless children and youths, the rights of such children and youths under McKinney-Vento, and the specific educational needs of runaway and homeless youths.
- **Referral services** to homeless children and youths for medical, dental, mental, and other health services.
- Assistance to defray the **excess cost of transportation** for students under § 722(g)(4)(A), not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, where necessary to enable students to attend the school selected under § 722(g)(3).

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Allowable Activities, Part 2

- Developmentally appropriate **early childhood education programs**, not otherwise provided through Federal, State, or local funding, for preschool-aged homeless children.
- **Before- and after-school, mentoring, and summer programs** in which a teacher or other qualified individual provides **tutoring, homework assistance, and supervision of educational activities**.
- Payment of fees and other costs associated with **tracking, obtaining, and transferring records** necessary to enroll homeless children and youths in school, including birth certificates, immunization or medical records, academic records, guardianship records, and evaluations for special programs or services.

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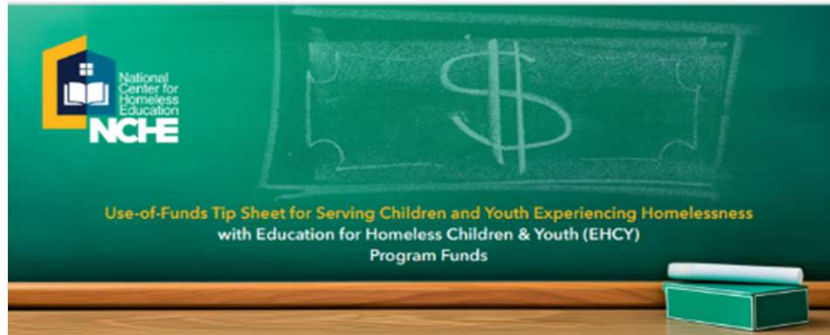
Allowable Activities, Part 3

- Education and training to the parents of homeless children and youths about the rights of and resources available to such children and youths.
- Activities to address the particular needs of homeless children and youths that may arise from **domestic violence**.
- Adaptation of space and purchase of supplies for any **non-school facilities** made available to provide services under McKinney-Vento.
- **School supplies**, including those supplies to be distributed at shelters or temporary housing facilities, or other appropriate locations.
- Other **extraordinary or emergency assistance** needed to enable homeless children and youths to attend school.

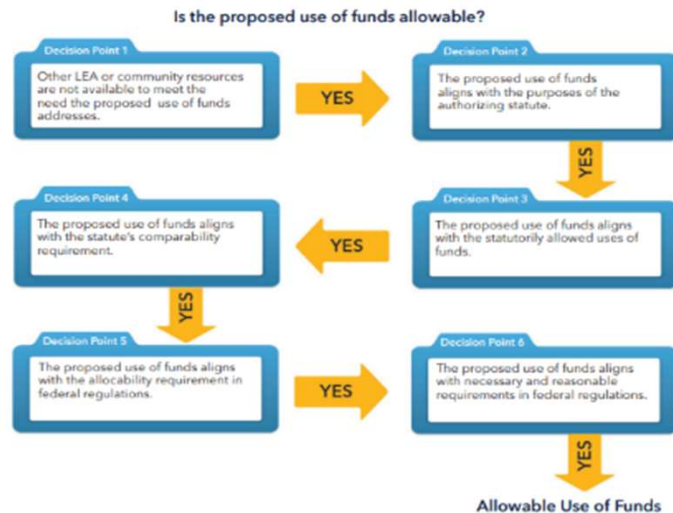
For more information on the allowable use of funds, see the [McKinney-Vento Toolkit](#) and [Non-Regulatory Guidance](#).

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Allowable Activities Tip Sheet



NCH's Use-of-Funds Tip Sheet provides educational administrators in local educational agencies (LEAs) with information and guiding questions to assist them in determining how to spend subgrant funds in their Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program authorized by Subtitle VII B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento Act). LEA subgrantees should consider the following six decision points in the order in which they are listed when making funding decisions. A proposed expenditure must meet the requirements in each of these decision points to be allowable.



- [Use-of-Funds Tip Sheet for Serving Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness with Education for Homeless Children & Youth \(EHCY\) Program Funds](#)



Subgrant Calendar Timeline

Subgrant Timeline

Month	Milestone
August 2026	• August 1: FY26 FER is due in ePlan • Monday, August 31: All FY27 initial budgets should be submitted in ePlan
October 2026	• Friday, October 30: Submit a budget revision for any FY26 carry-over funds
November 2026	• More information about the Mid-Year Performance Review will be shared mid-month • Friday, November 20: Mid-Year Performance Review opens in ePlan

Subgrant Timeline Cont.

Month	Milestone
January 2027	• Friday, January 22: Mid-Year Performance Review due in ePlan • Monday, January 25: Mid-Year Performance Review calls begin
February 2027	• Continued Mid-Year Performance calls with subgrantees
June 2027	• Tuesday, June 1: FY27 Closeout Report opens in ePlan • Wednesday, June 30: FY27 Closeout Report due in ePlan
July 2027	• Monday, July 19 (tentative): FY28 award allocations shared with liaisons • Monday, July 26 (tentative): FY28 allocations loaded in ePlan

Subgrant Monitoring & Reports

Mid-Year Performance Review

- The Mid-Year Performance Review is an extension of the subgrant application and will allow LEAs to reflect on what has been working within the homeless program and areas that might need refinement.
- Calls will be scheduled with each liaison to discuss the Mid-Year Performance Review.
- These calls will be an opportunity to collaborate and discuss any concerns or questions you have about your program.
- [ePlan](#) > TDOE Resources > ESSA Information, Guidance, PPTs, & Webinars > Title IX, Part A Education for Homeless Children & Youth > McKinney-Vento Homeless Grant Documents & Information > [McKinney-Vento Subgrant Mid-Year Performance Review ePlan Guide](#)

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Closeout Report

- **McKinney-Vento Closeout Report**

- Subgrant recipients must express a need for continued funding each year of the grant cycle through the submission of the *McKinney-Vento Closeout Report* in ePlan.
- The annual closeout report helps to provide information, data, and evidence of quality program implementation, opportunities for program development, and considerations for future funding.
- The annual reporting period is **July 1** through **June 1**.

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Important Policies and Procedures

Policy & Procudres: Removing Barriers

- Under federal law (the McKinney-Vento Act), state and local educational agencies are required to develop, review, and revise policies to “remove barriers to the identification of homeless children and youths, and the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youths in schools in the State, including barriers to enrollment and retention due to outstanding fees or fines, or absences.” [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(I)].

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LEA McKinney-Vento Homelessness Policy Checklist



Checklist

Local Educational Agency name: _____

Policy name(s) and/or number(s): _____

Date the policy was adopted: ____ / ____ / ____

Component	Included and compliant ¹ (page/citation)	Included, not compliant (page/citation)	Not included	Notes ²
Definition of homeless (42 U.S.C. §11434a(2))				
LIAISONS				
LEA liaison is required (42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(1)(J)(ii))				

¹ To be considered compliant, the information in the policy must be legally accurate and complete. It does not have to include implementation instructions. For example, the definition of school of origin must include preschools and feeder schools. It does not have to go into detail about which preschools are covered.

² If a policy is marked not compliant, explain why in the notes. Also note any questions or concerns about a policy and any policies that are particularly well-written or otherwise could be considered a model.

- This checklist is intended to assist local educational agencies in evaluating their own McKinney-Vento policies.
- [LEA McKinney-Vento Homelessness Policy Checklist](#)

Dispute Resolution Process Brief and TDOE Template



National Center for Homeless Education
Supporting the Education of Children
and Youth Experiencing Homelessness
<https://nche.ed.gov>



McKINNEY-VENTO LAW INTO PRACTICE BRIEF SERIES

Dispute Resolution

This NCHE brief:

- summarizes the key provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act related to dispute resolution, and
- provides an overview of implementation strategies at the State and local levels



McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process Sample Form

Instructions for Using this Template:

Before sharing, 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.

This form can be used to initiate the dispute resolution process required by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. It can be used when a parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth disagrees with the LEAs eligibility, school selection, or enrollment decision. If a dispute arises under the McKinney-Vento Act over eligibility, school selection, or school enrollment [42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(3)(E)], the Act requires LEAs initiate the McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process. Federal law [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(C)] requires that the State have a [Dispute Process](#) and that the LEA policy must align with the State's policy .

Sources: [NCHE McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Brief](#)
[TEMPLATE McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Process Sample Form 2021-04-16](#)



Transportation MOU Template

<LEA Letterhead>

Dear Parent/Guardian/Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY),

Your child(ren) or you, as an unaccompanied homeless youth, are currently eligible for services through the McKinney-Vento program. Per the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, transportation will be provided to your child(ren) or you, as an unaccompanied youth, to and from school.

The following describes our agreement with you regarding transportation:

Pick-Up: Students must be at the bus stop or selected location at the time provided by the transportation department. Drivers can wait no more than [X] minutes from the scheduled time.

Drop-Off: An adult pre-approved by parents and guardians must be present at the bus stop or selected location to pick-up students too young to be left unsupervised. The transportation department will provide the time that the adult must be present for the pick-up of students; parents and guardians must notify the liaison or the transportation department if an adult other than the parent or guardian will be picking up the student.

Communication of Absences: If a student is going to be absent from school and therefore does not need transportation for part or all of a day, parents or guardians must call and inform the designated driver no later than [X] a.m. on the day of the absence so the driver can adjust the route accordingly.

Driver's Name: [Insert]

Contact Phone Number: [Insert]

Behavioral Expectations: Students and parents are expected to follow the [Insert LEA Name] policies for student behavior. Disciplinary actions for students who violate the behavior policies will be followed as they are for any student in the district.

If [Insert LEA Name] fails to provide the agreed upon transportation services, the liaison should be contacted. Your liaison is [Insert Name] and may be reached at [Insert Contact Info].

If a student's residence changes, the transportation department must be contacted by [Insert Time] to allow for transportation to be arranged. Transportation requests and changes may take up to [insert number] days to be routed, so temporary transportation may be provided while routing is arranged.

The transportation department may be contacted at:

[insert info].

Please sign below to acknowledge that you understand and agree with these expectations and terms.

Parent/Guardian/UHY Name (Printed)

Signature

Date

Name of Liaison (Printed)

Signature

Date

Transportation Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)

Examples of Additional Considerations when Developing LEA MOU

School Bus	Share Ride or Taxi	Transportation Reimbursement	Bus Pass/Tokens
- The student should be outside at least five minutes early, waiting for the bus - Proper school bus behavior is expected.	- You must call (XXX) XXX-XXXX by 7:45 a.m. if your student is ill or does not need the taxi - The student should be outside waiting for the taxi five minutes early. - If you have questions, call the Homeless Program number, (XXX) XXX-XXXX, not the ride-share company. - A parent/guardian must be home to meet the student when the student is dropped off. - Too many infractions could result in the loss of ride-share privileges.	- Can only be used when other methods of transportation are not available. - Checks are issued once each month – checks are to be picked up at the Central office; you will be called. - LEA will measure mileage and check attendance – you will receive no pay for days the student is tardy or absent. - Mileage, when approved, will begin on the day the "in lieu of" form is signed. It will not be retroactive.	- Bus passes are left at the end of each month in the school office - the student will be notified. - Adult pass expectations are that the parent/guardian will accompany the student(s) to and from school. - Lost bus passes will NOT be replaced - the student will be placed on the "two tokens a day" program. - Loss of second bus pass will result in the "two tokens a day" program for the remainder of the school year. - Lack of attendance will result in the loss of bus pass.

Important Reminders

- **Provide documentation of all decisions.**
 - The McKinney-Vento Act requires liaisons to provide parents with information on their right to dispute if denied enrollment.
 - LEAs should have **written policies and procedures** focused on:
 - Identification
 - Enrollment
 - Best Interest Determination
 - Transportation
 - Dispute Resolution
 - **All written policies should be kept on file and provided to families upon identification.** If a dispute arises, the LEA may refer to its written policies and procedures when discussing enrollment, transportation, school selection, and other issues with families.



Information for Parents



IF YOU ARE STAYING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter or transitional housing

In a motel, hotel, or campground
because you don't have another
safe and stable place to stay

In a car, park, public place,
abandoned building, or bus or
train station

In someone else's house because
you lost your housing or are going
through a hard time financially and
don't have another safe and stable
place to stay

Your school-age child(ren) might
qualify for help at school under
the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

If your child(ren) qualify under the McKinney-Vento Act,
they have the right to:

Go to public school for free and
participate fully in school activities.

Enroll in school immediately and go
to class, even if you don't have the
documents normally required for
school. The school where you are
enrolled is responsible for helping
you get any documents needed to
keep attending classes.

Enroll in the local school near where
you're staying or continue going
to your school of origin (the school
you went to when you last had a safe
and stable place to live or the school
where you were last enrolled), based
on where you think would be best
for you to go to school.

If the school district thinks that
where you want to go to school is

not in your best interest, the district
has to tell you in writing why it thinks
another school would be better for
you and give you the opportunity to
appeal its decision if you want to do
that. The district also has to connect
you with the McKinney-Vento
district liaison, who has to help you
understand your right to appeal.

Get transportation to and from
your school of origin, if you keep
going to this school and ask for
transportation.

Get help at school that is similar
to the help other students get,
based on what you might need.
These services could include
transportation, academic help,
and free meals at school.

If you think your child(ren) might qualify, contact the district
McKinney-Vento local liaison or the McKinney-Vento state coordinator
to find out what help might be available for your child(ren) at school.

Local Liaison Name
McKinney-Vento Local Liaison

Vanessa Waters
McKinney-Vento State Coordinator
(615) 917-3750
Vanessa.Waters@tn.gov



Important: New Homeless Rights Posters

- Ensure every school has an updated homeless poster posted in a common area of the school.
- Contact information should include both the local homeless liaison as well as the state coordinator:
 - **Vanessa Waters**
 - **(615) 917-3750**
 - Email: Vanessa.Waters@tn.gov
- Posters can be downloaded from:
 - [ePlan](#) > TDOE Resources > Title IX, Part A Education for Homeless Children & Youth > Educational Rights Posters > [Parents' Right to Know](#) and [Youth Right to Know](#) or
 - [National Center for Homeless Education \(NCHE\)](#)

LEA/School Handbook and Website

- Include information about the McKinney-Vento Act in student/parent handbooks.
- Clearly display information about McKinney-Vento on your LEA/school website in a place where parents and students can find it easily, including:
 - name and contact information for the local liaison,
 - definition of homeless under McKinney-Vento, and
 - rights and services available to students experiencing homelessness.

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Resources & Support

2026-27 McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children & Youth (EHCY) Quarterly Call Schedule

- McKinney-Vento Quarterly Calls from **10 – 11 a.m. CT | 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET** for the 2026-27 academic year.
- Attendance is **required** for McKinney-Vento subgrantees
- **Meeting Login Information:**
 - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
 - Or call in (audio only): **(615) 270-9704** Phone Conference ID: 831 844 707#

Quarterly Call Dates:

- Thursday September :17
 - (Special ESSA Collective Separate Log-in Required)
- Thursday, November 20: TBD
- Thursday, February 26: TBD
- Thursday, April 22:
 - McKinney-Vento EHCY Programming and End-of-Year Supports



Slide 39

VW1 [@Brinn Obermiller], waiting to hear back from JB on dates for Sept and thinking about topics
Vanessa Waters, 2026-07-20T22:04:40.121

McKinney-Vento Office Hours

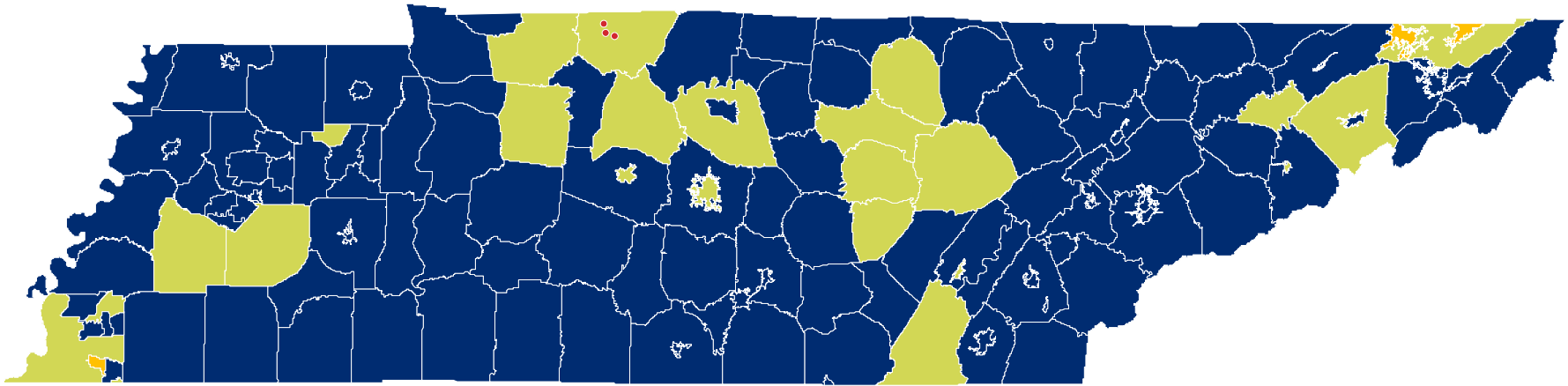
- McKinney-Vento Office Hours will be hosted on the **first Thursday of each month from 10–11 a.m. CT | 11 a.m. –12 p.m. ET.**
- **Log-in Information:**
 - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
 - Or call in (audio only): **(615) 270-9704**
 - Phone Conference ID: 174 759 945#

McKinney-Vento Office Hour Dates

2026	2027
• Thursday, Aug. 6 • Thursday, Sept. 3 • Thursday, Oct. 1 • Thursday, Nov. 5 • Thursday, Dec. 3	• Thursday, Jan. 7 • Thursday, Feb. 4 • Thursday, March 4 • Thursday, April 1 • Thursday, May 6



Title IX McKinney-Vento Subgrant-Awarded LEAs



Bristol City Schools	Putnam County	White County
Davidson County	Murfreesboro City Schools	Rhea County
Dickson County	Haywood County	Millington SSD
Greene County	Wilson County	Newport
Huntingdon SSD	Hamblen County	Van Buren County
Overton County	Cumberland County	Memphis-Shelby County
Hamilton County	Franklin SSD	Kingsport City Schools
Robertson County	Sullivan County	
Montgomery County	Madison County	

Resources

- [ePlan](#) > TDOE Resources > ESSA Information, Guidance, PPTs, & Webinars > Title IX, Part A Education for Homeless Children & Youth > McKinney-Vento Toolkit & Template
- [Education for Homeless Children and Youth \(EHCY\) Program Non-Regulatory Guidance](#)
- [National Center for Homeless Education \(NCHE\)](#)
- [SchoolHouse Connection](#)
- [National Association for the Education of Homeless Children & Youth \(NAEH CY\)](#)

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Please Share your Feedback:

You may access the PD Survey by navigating here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/eVtWEAZ9xZ>





Thank You!

Vanessa Waters | McKinney-Vento Grant Manager

Vanessa.Waters@tn.gov

(615) 917-3750

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