United States Department of State

Under Secretary of State
for Management

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 9, 2026

Dear School Administrator:

As result of the ongoing security situation in the Middle East, U.S. Embassies across the region have imposed staffing caps on the numbers of U.S. personnel who may be present and has restricted the presence of family members. Our employees and their families who are currently unable to remain in their countries of assignment may need your assistance to help place their children in appropriate schools.

This letter is a formal request for you to consider all streamlined registration pathways your district has available, including enrollment under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or another emergency enrollment mechanism.

The Department of State recognizes that your district makes enrollment and McKinney-Vento Act eligibility decisions case by case, based on each student's circumstances. To that end, please consider the following:

Involuntary and temporary displacement: These families did not voluntarily relocate to the United States or establish a permanent domestic residence. Their inability to remain at their overseas post of assignment is at the direction of the Department of State due to the conditions affecting their overseas assignments, and their ability to return to their posts remains dependent upon circumstances outside their control.

May lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence in the United States: The families' residences remain tied to their overseas assignments. Their current accommodations are temporary, and they are in them only because they cannot safely return to their overseas residences at this time. Families often are

staying with extended family as their sponsoring employee is required to remain overseas.

Continuing uncertainty: The duration of each family's stay in the United States cannot presently be determined with certainty and will depend upon evolving conditions and Department of State guidance concerning when restrictions on an

overseas post's staffing and presence of family members, particularly children, will be authorized.

Respectfully, please consider these circumstances on a case-by-case basis and allow each student to enroll in the option for which they are eligible to ensure their continued education.

We ask that you forward this correspondence to McKinney-Vento and Title I contacts at local school districts.

If you have questions about families in this circumstance, please reach out to homelessED@ed.gov or your State Coordinator for homeless education programs.

Sincerely,



Jason S. Evans

Under Secretary for Management

U.S. Department of State

CC: Patrick Rooney, Senior Director of the Division of State Support and Accountability, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education