



# “10 in 10” Orientation Tutorial for New State Coordinators

Module 3: Getting to Know  
your State’s McKinney-  
Vento Program



*10 10-Minute Modules to Orient You to Your New Position*



## About the “10 in 10” Module Series



NCHE’s “10 in10” module series for new State Coordinators for homeless education

- ❑ Provides 10 short modules that cover essential topics to orient you to your new position;
- ❑ Is based on information in NCHE’s more comprehensive *State Coordinators’ Handbook* available for download at [http://center.serve.org/nche/pr/sc\\_hb\\_2010.php](http://center.serve.org/nche/pr/sc_hb_2010.php);
- ❑ Includes links to additional resources; and
- ❑ Includes Questions to Consider and a Wrap Up to reinforce key points and help you develop your work plan.



## Module 3: Overview



In Module 3, new State Coordinators will learn information to help them understand their state McKinney-Vento program, including the following topics:

- ❑ The State Plan,
- ❑ Federal monitoring reports,
- ❑ Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR) data,
- ❑ LEA monitoring reports,
- ❑ Subgrant applications and end of year reports,
- ❑ McKinney-Vento program budget, and
- ❑ State policies.



# The McKinney-Vento State Plan



- Every state was required to submit a State Plan after the 2001 reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Act.

The State Plan must include

- A. A description of how homeless children and youth are given the same opportunity as other children to meet state academic achievement standards;
- B. Procedures for the identification of homeless children and youth;
- C. Procedures for the prompt resolution of disputes;
- D. A description of programs for school personnel to heighten their awareness of the needs of runaway and homeless youth;



# The McKinney-Vento State Plan



- E. Procedures ensuring that homeless children and youth can participate in child nutrition programs;
- F. Procedures for ensuring homeless children and youth have
  - o Access to public preschool programs,
  - o Equal access to appropriate secondary education and support services, if they are separated from public school, and
  - o Access to before- and after-school programs;
- G. Strategies to address problems identified through data collection;
- H. Strategies to address enrollment delays;



# The McKinney-Vento State Plan



- I. A demonstration that the state educational agency (SEA) and local educational agencies (LEAs) have reviewed and revised policies to remove educational barriers for homeless children and youth; and
- J. Assurances that
  - o SEAs and LEAs will adopt policies and practices to ensure that homeless children and youth are not stigmatized or segregated,
  - o LEAs will designate a homeless education liaison, and
  - o SEAs and LEAs will ensure transportation to and from the school of origin.  
[42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)]



# The McKinney-Vento State Plan



With regard to compliance, the State Plan will describe:

- A. How the SEA will ensure LEA compliance with McKinney-Vento mandates, and
- B. SEA technical assistance to LEAs.

[42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(2)]



# The McKinney-Vento State Plan



State Plan revision:

- ❑ The McKinney-Vento Act does not require states to update their State Plan; nevertheless, most states periodically update their state plan as good practice.
- ❑ Upon reauthorization, states will be required to create new State Plans.





# Questions to Consider



Review your State Plan to respond to the following questions:

1. How does your state support the academic achievement of homeless children and youth?
2. How does your state ensure that homeless children and youth are identified?
3. What is your state dispute resolution procedure for the McKinney-Vento program?
4. How does your state ensure equal access to public preschool programs for homeless children?
5. How does your state remove barriers to immediate school enrollment for homeless children and youth?



## Questions to Consider



6. How does your state ensure that transportation is provided for homeless children and youth to and from the school of origin?
7. How does your state ensure that local liaisons are appointed in every school district?
8. How does your state ensure that LEAs comply with the law?
9. What technical assistance does your state provide to LEAs to ensure compliance with the law?
10. When was your State Plan last revised?



# Federal Monitoring Reports



- ❑ Each state is routinely monitored by the U.S. Department of Education (ED).
- ❑ Monitoring reports inform you of the strengths and weaknesses of your state program with regard to
  - LEA monitoring and oversight,
  - Accountability and evaluation (data collection),
  - State-level coordination and collaboration,
  - Technical assistance to LEAs,
  - Oversight of subgrants,
  - The reservation and use of funds for state-level activities, and
  - Dispute resolution.



# Questions to Consider



1. When was the most recent federal monitoring of the McKinney-Vento program in your state?
2. What findings and recommendations were given?
3. What was the SEA's response to these findings and recommendations?





# Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR) Data



- ❑ CSPR data is submitted by each LEA annually for federal reporting.
- ❑ CSPR data will inform you of
  - The number of LEAs with and without subgrants;
  - The number of homeless children and youth enrolled in school;
  - The initial primary nighttime residence of homeless children and youth enrolled in school;
  - The number of homeless children and youth served by subgrants, including preschool-aged; and
  - The academic proficiency of homeless students in reading, math, and science.



# Questions to Consider



1. How many homeless children and youth are enrolled in schools in your state?
2. How many LEAs report 0 or less than 10 homeless students? Given what you know of the level of poverty in your state, does this indicate possible under-identification of homeless students?
3. How are homeless students in the state performing academically? In comparison to non-homeless students? In comparison to economically disadvantaged students?



# LEA Monitoring Reports



- ❑ The U.S. Department of Education requires states to monitor all LEAs.
- ❑ A review of LEA monitoring reports will inform you of
  - Which LEAs have been most recently monitored and which have not;
  - Which LEAs have significant compliance findings and may need targeted technical assistance or oversight; and
  - What issues need state-level technical assistance or policy review.



# Questions to Consider



1. Which LEAs have been most recently monitored for McKinney-Vento compliance? Which LEAs should be targeted for monitoring during the next year?
2. What are the most common monitoring findings among LEAs?
3. Which LEAs have significant findings?
4. Which LEAs have responded to the findings?



# Subgrants



- A review of subgrant applications, awards, and awardee reports will inform you
  - How many LEAs receive subgrants,
  - How much funding was awarded for subgrants,
  - When the last subgrant competition was conducted, and
  - What types of activities subgrantees conduct.



# Questions to Consider



1. When was the last subgrant competition conducted in our state?
2. How many subgrants were awarded?
3. What is the average dollar amount of awards?
4. What is required in terms of LEA reporting regarding subgrant implementation?



# Program Budget



- Reviewing your state's McKinney-Vento program budget will inform you of
  - How much money (what percentage of the annual McKinney-Vento state allocation) is awarded to LEAs in competitive subgrants;
    - 75% of the annual allocation must be awarded in subgrants (50% in minimum funded states);
  - How much money (what percentage of the annual McKinney-Vento state allocation) is reserved for state-level activities;
  - How much of the funding reserved for state-level activities supports the State Coordinator's position; and
  - What other state-level activities are supported by McKinney-Vento funds.



# State Policies within the SEA



- ❑ SEA policies may be in place to support the implementation of the McKinney-Vento Act
- ❑ State policies may address
  - Transportation;
  - Enrollment barriers, such as delays caused by lack of records or proof of guardianship;
  - Residency requirements;
  - Awaiting foster care placement clarification;
  - Credit accrual for homeless youth; and
  - Preschool enrollment.



# State Policies Beyond Education



- Most states have policies that address
  - Issues related to minor medical consent;
  - The reporting of suspected abuse or neglect;
  - The reporting of runaway youth (not required in many states); and
  - Access to housing and services for homeless youth.
- Sources for locating these policies
  - State policy agencies and websites
  - Legal advocacy groups
  - *Alone without a Home*: a state-by-state review of laws affecting unaccompanied youth from the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty ([http://www.nlchp.org/Alone\\_Without\\_A\\_Home](http://www.nlchp.org/Alone_Without_A_Home))



# Questions to Consider



1. What SEA policies exist related to homeless children and youth?
2. What state laws and policies exist related to youth; child welfare; and services for homeless families, children, and youth?



## Wrap Up



Upon completing Module 3, new State Coordinators should be able to answer the following questions:

1. Where is your McKinney-Vento State Plan located?
2. How many homeless children and youth were enrolled in school in your state in the past school year?
3. How many LEAs in your state have a McKinney-Vento subgrant?
4. How many LEAs have been monitored for McKinney-Vento compliance by the SEA in the last three years?
5. What state policies address the needs of homeless children and youth?