



Family Resources of Natick

179 Boden Lane
Natick, MA 01760
508/655-2557

South Middlesex Opportunity Council

300 Howard St.
Framingham, MA 01701
508-872-0765, 508-620-2623

Family Promise Metrowest

13 Common St.
Natick, MA 01760
508-318-4820

Natick Service Council

2 Webster Street
508-655-1791
*We help clients meet basic needs for food,
housing, and access to health care*

A Place to Turn

508-655-8868
Food Pantry and clothing

Mass Housing and Shelter Alliance

617/367-6447
Guide for youth under 18 to access services.

Tempo

508/879-1424
Multiple supports for 17 to 24 year olds.

Wayside Youth and Family Support Network

1 Frederick Abbott Way
Framingham, MA 01701
508-879-9800



Natick Public Schools

13 East Central Street
Natick, MA 01760

Timothy Luff,
Director of Student Services
Homeless Liaison
508/647-6510

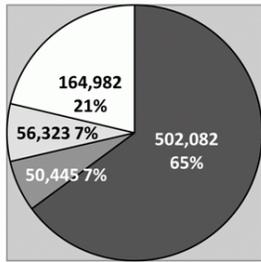


NATICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**MCKINNEY-VENTO
HOMELESS ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM**

*Each homeless youth is entitled to the
education and services that will ensure them
an opportunity to meet the same state
standards to which all other students are held.*

“school remains an oasis of stability.”



■ Doubled up ■ Unsheltered □ Hotels/Motels □ Shelters

If your family lives in any of the following situations, you are considered homeless:

- In a shelter, motel or campground
- On the street
- In an abandoned building, trailer or other inadequate accommodations, or
- Double up with friends or relatives because you cannot find affordable housing

Eligible homeless children and youth must be given equal opportunity to:

- Participate in programs such as WIC, free and reduced lunch, food stamps and after-school programs.
- the same educational services that they would qualify for if they were not homeless, such as special education, extra-curricular and after-school programs.

How soon can a homeless child begin school after registering?

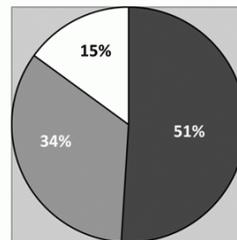
All homeless children are to be enrolled immediately even if they do not have the documents usually required for enrollment, such as school records, immunization or medical records.

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

What is the residency requirement? Massachusetts law requires that, "every person shall have a right to attend the public school of the tow where he actually resides."

Under McKinney-Vento, the district must

- continue the child's education in his/her school for the remainder of the school year, or if the child becomes homeless between academic years, through the following year
- enroll the child immediately in school, even if they do not heave the documents usually required for enrollments, such as school records, medical records or proof of residency.
- the child's guardian has the right to choose whether the child should attend school in the district of origin or to enroll in the district of temporary residence.



■ % under age 6 ■ % age 6-12 □ % age 13-17

Three Year Results

- Over 1,000 families were placed in permanent housing, saving the Commonwealth an estimated \$3.6 million in shelter costs and associated expenses
- 77% of those successfully housed were confirmed as stable after a three-year period
- Over 400 families received financial education /counseling
- Over 250 families were able to increase their income
- Over 80% of all families established a working budget

The Massachusetts Educational Plan provides services aimed at preventing homeless children from experiencing further instability in their lives. It tries to minimize their moves from school to school and to increase their access to a free, appropriate, public education.



What is the McKinney Homeless Act?

The McKinney Homeless Act is a federal law that requires all homeless youth to have access to the same free and appropriate public education that is provided to all other children. McKinney states that homelessness alone is not a sufficient reason to separate students from the mainstream school environment.

Should a dispute arise with the district, the homeless liaison must serve as the advocate for an unaccompanied youth. In addition, the homeless student shall remain in the selected school while the dispute is being resolved.

