**Information for students experiencing homelessness**

* PA Virtual Charter School believes that homeless youth should have access to free and appropriate public education and wishes to limit the barriers that homeless children may face. Our goal is to have the educational process continue as uninterrupted as possible while children are in homeless situations under the [McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act](https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/).

Homeless students are defined as individuals lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, which may include the following conditions:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason.

2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.

3. Living in an emergency, transitional, or domestic violence shelters.

4. Abandoned in hospitals.

5. Using public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings, as a primary nighttime residence.

6. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations, or similar settings.

7. Living as migratory children in conditions described in previous examples.

8. Living as run-away children, abandoned, or forced out of homes by parents/guardians or caretakers, or separated from parents/guardians for any other reason.

9. Living as school-age parents/guardians in houses for school-age parents/guardians if they have no other living accommodations.

Below are links to resources with further information and details. Should you have any questions, you can contact the PA Virtual Homeless Liaison, Ms. Widmann at (484) 685-4625 or cwidmann@pavcs.us.

**Resources:**

* [PA Dept of Ed Homeless Education](http://www.education.state.pa.us/homeless)[I want to go to college: Now What?](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/want-to-go-to-college.pdf)
* [Family Service of --County](http://connectpoints.org/)
* [211: Get Help During the COVID-19 Crisis](https://www.uwp.org/programs/2-1-1/)[PA Virtual Homeless Policy](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lmpNCR9Y5K-jWa7LGyf0-775mDjjmB2K/view?usp=sharing)
* PA Virtual Enrollment Policy
* [PA Virtual Enrollment Website](https://www.pavcsk12.org/pa-virtual-charter-school/enrollment?hsCtaTracking=4aac2965-ae19-4970-bb15-bf6ab0c70a49%7C5149d326-9a67-4838-8944-a422d9fb1e56)
* PDE Directory for [Shelters](https://directory.center-school.org/homeless/shelter/display/type/all) in the State (click on the word “Shelters” for each website)