



NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

Policy 7-65

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STUDENTS HOMELESS STUDENTS

New Trier will ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless child as defined in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and the Illinois Education for Homeless Children Act has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. Homeless students include those youth who are not residing in a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The Superintendent will work with the Liaison for Homeless Children to implement this policy.

A homeless child may choose to attend New Trier if it was the school in which the student was enrolled when last permanently housed, the last school in which the child was enrolled, or the child is living or residing in the attendance boundaries for the school while homeless. A homeless special education student may attend the District when the student enrolls for educational services, regardless of where he/she resides.

The Superintendent or designee will review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children. When a homeless student seeks enrollment at New Trier and at least twice annually when the student is enrolled, the District will provide written notice of rights as required by Law. Transportation will be provided in accordance with the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and State law.

If a child is denied enrollment or transportation under this Policy, the Liaison for Homeless Children will refer the child or his or her parent or guardian to the ombudsperson appointed by the appropriate Intermediate Service Center and will provide the child or his or her parent or guardian with a written explanation for the denial, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or child to appeal the decision. The Liaison will also inform parents and guardians of the homeless children of sources of low cost or free legal assistance and other advocacy services in the community. During the pendency of the dispute, the child will be admitted to New Trier. The ombudsperson will convene a meeting of all parties and attempt to resolve the dispute within 5 school days after receiving notice of the dispute, if possible.

Whenever a child and his or her parent or guardian who initially share the housing of another person due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar hardship continue to share the housing, the Liaison for Homeless Children shall, after the passage of 18 months and annually thereafter, conduct a review as to whether such hardship continues to exist in accordance with State law.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. § 11431 *et seq.*
105 ILCS 45/1-1 *et seq.*

Adopted: 6/8/2015