

EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (MCKINNEY ACT) PROGRAM

It is the policy of Opelika City Schools that all children within the city limits have access to a free and appropriate public education. There will be no barriers to enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youth.

Homeless children include children who might at night:

- Sleep in shelters for the homeless (including domestic violence shelters and shelters for runaway youth).
- Sleep in the home of relatives or friends because they lack a fixed, regular and adequate residence.
- Sleep in a car, tent, an abandoned building, or any other place not a permanent residence of the school district.

Opelika City Schools for children in kindergarten through grade twelve will:

- Enroll homeless children and youth, even if they are not permanent residents of the school district.
- Provide comparable services to homeless children and youth.
- Maintain the records of homeless children and youth so that records are made available when a child or youth enters a new school.
- Provide staff development activities that increase the awareness and sensitivity of school personnel to the special education needs of homeless children and youth.
- Abide by a parent or guardian's request to enroll a homeless child in a particular school to the extent feasible.
- Provide opportunities for parents to be actively involved in the education of their children.

ADOPTED: May 11, 2004

Revised: October 24, 2017