

I. PURPOSE

In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act § 11431-11435, this policy ensures that homeless students have the opportunity to attend school with as little disruption as reasonably possible.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Homeless Child: A child who lacks a regular, fixed, and adequate nighttime residence.

III. POLICY

- A. Homeless students are entitled to immediate enrollment and full participation, even if they are unable to produce records required for enrollment, which may include:
1. Medical records;
 2. Birth certificate;
 3. School records; and
 4. Proof of residency.
- B. To properly identify homeless or emancipated students, a school administrator or teacher first must determine the residence of a student which involves the following considerations:
1. The place, however temporary, where the child actually sleeps;
 2. The place where an emancipated minor, unaccompanied youth, or homeless child's family keeps its belongings; or
 3. The place which an emancipated minor, unaccompanied youth, or homeless child's parent/guardian(s) considers to be home.
- C. Determination of student's residence or place a student considers to be a permanent home, may not be based upon:
1. Rent or lease receipts for an apartment or home;
 2. The existence or absence of a permanent address; or
 3. A required length of residence in a given location.
- D. Athlos Academy of St. Cloud has the following protocol for meeting the needs of homeless students:

Educating Homeless Students

1. Within one (1) day of admitting a homeless student, the homeless education liaison shall be notified, and contact shall be made with the appropriate officials.
2. Homeless children are entitled to receive transportation and other services that are available to non-homeless students.
3. Homeless students will be eligible for programs for gifted and talented students and school nutrition programs as well as any other educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria.
4. Homeless students shall be permitted to continue attending Athlos Academy of St. Cloud, to the extent reasonable, unless it is against the wishes of their parent/guardian(s), and be permitted to remain at the school for the duration of the homelessness until the students move into permanent housing.
5. Athos Academy of St. Cloud will continue efforts to assist homeless students in completing necessary and important records, especially immunization records.

Legal References:

[Minn. Stat. § 120A.20, Subd. 2](#) (Admission to Public School)

[McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act § 11431-11435](#)