

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

**Policy Reference: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
42 USC Sections 11431 et seq.
ORC §9.60 through 9.62
ORC §3313.64 (F)(13)
OAC §3301-35-02
OAC §3301-35-04
OAC §3301-35-06**

ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS POLICY

- I. Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to provide for the admission of homeless students in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the Ohio Department of Education.
- II. Definitions:**
- A. “Board” means the Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities.
- III. Policy:**
- A. The Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Board) believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, Starlight School shall enroll each homeless student appropriately referred to the school as determined to be in the student’s best interest. A homeless student is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence including:
1. a “doubling up” or sharing the housing with another family due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
 2. living in a motel, hotel, trailer park or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
 3. living in emergency or transitional shelters;
 4. abandonment in hospitals;
 5. awaiting foster care placement;
 6. a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

7. living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings and
 8. migratory students.
- B. In compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the School Principal shall make school placement determinations on the basis of the best interest of the student. To the extent feasible, homeless students are kept in the school unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent or guardian.
- C. To the extent feasible, the school will comply with a request made by a parent(s) regarding school placement regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parent(s) or is temporarily residing elsewhere.
- D. The Board ensures that:
1. it reviews and revises Board policies and regulations to eliminate barriers to the enrollment, retention and success in school of homeless students;
 2. the school does not segregate homeless students into separate programs within the school based on the student's status as homeless;
 3. it appoints a school liaison who ensures that homeless students enroll and succeed in school and
 4. homeless students are provided with education, nutrition and transportation services that are at least comparable to the services provided to nonhomeless students.
- E. The liaison ensures compliance with the sub grant and coordinates services for homeless students with local social service agencies and programs, including those funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.
- F. A student who ceases to be homeless may continue to receive services until the end of the period of time for which the service was originally intended to be provided, which may be the end of the school year or the end of a program cycle.
- G. The school complies with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan and State and Federal laws for the education of homeless students.

Adopted: July 26, 2012

Signature of Board Officer: _____