

345 The School's Responsibility to Homeless Children

It is the policy of the Board that no homeless child shall be deprived of any of the opportunities or benefits offered by the program of instruction because of his/her family living situation. Therefore, provisions shall be made for assistance to such students for: continued attendance in their school of origin, where possible; establishment of a school of origin; transportation; acquiring immunization and school records; proof of residency; and immediate access to free lunch program, materials for instruction and extracurricular activity fee waivers.

- a. The Title I Child in Transition/Homeless Project (CIT/H) is the Anchorage School District's contact for homeless students and families, school district staff, and shelter and community agencies to assist in the establishment of eligibility, enrollment of homeless students, and providing educational services for homeless students.
- b. The school of origin is the school the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.
- c. Establishment of a school of origin when a homeless student is new to the district will be determined using the following criteria:
 1. Availability of support services for student and/or family.
 2. On a space available basis.
- d. Transportation will be provided each homeless student comparable to that received by other district students. Where feasible, the district will provide transportation for homeless students to schools of origin.
- e. The district will make special efforts to ensure the enrollment and attendance of homeless students who do not currently attend school. The Anchorage School District's 15 day attendance rule will not be applied. The district will allow homeless students to enroll and attend by exceptions, waivers, or grace period under the following conditions:
 1. Parents/guardians reside in another district and the student is not living with a parent or legal guardian.
 2. Student/family cannot demonstrate proof of residency.
 3. Student/family does not have a permanent address.
 4. Student does not have records from another school.
 5. Student has not officially withdrawn from a previous school.
 6. Student has proof of age document other than a birth certificate.