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| **Name of Grant Program:** McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant **Fund Code:** 310-A |

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| MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION GRANT ASSURANCES |

The local school district receiving McKinney-Vento funds agrees to:

1. designate a school district homeless education liaison who will ensure that homeless children and youth are identified by school personnel; that homeless children and youth are enrolled in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in school and have access to and receive educational services for which such families, children, and youth are eligible; that the parents or guardians of homeless children and youth are informed, in the language of the home, of the educational and related opportunities available to their children including Head Start, Early Intervention and other preschool programs administered by the district and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children; that public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youth is disseminated where homeless children and youth receive services, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens; that enrollment disputes are mediated according to Department guidelines; that homeless children and youth receive the transportation services for which they are eligible, including transportation to the school of origin; that school personnel providing services to homeless students receive professional development and that unaccompanied homeless youth are enrolled, have the same opportunities as other students and are informed of their status as independent students, may obtain assistance and verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA);
2. presume that keeping children and youth in their school of origin, is in the child’s or youth’s best interest, for the duration of homelessness and thru the end of the academic year in which the child or youth becomes housed, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth; or, upon the request of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth, enroll the child or youth in any school that a non-homeless student who lives in the same area would be eligible to attend;
3. consider student-centered factors related to the child’s or youth’s best interest including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth; If the district determines it is not in the child’s or youth’s best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth provide a written explanation including information regarding the right to appeal;
4. ensure that the Homeless Education Liaison assists in the placement or enrollment decision of an unaccompanied youth, gives priority to the views and advocates on behalf of the unaccompanied youth, and provides notice of the right to appeal to the youth;
5. immediately enroll the homeless child or youth, even if the child or youth is unable to produce records or documentation normally required for enrollment, and immediately contact the school last attended by the child or youth to obtain relevant academic and medical records;
6. immediately refer the parent or guardian of the child or youth to the school district Homeless Education Liaison who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or screenings or other health records, if immunizations are needed;
7. maintain records ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization or other required health records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs, regarding each homeless child or youth so that the records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youth enters a new school or school district;
8. maintain a dispute resolution procedure in accordance with Department guidelines to address conflicts over school selection or enrollment and pending resolution of the dispute, admit the child or youth immediately to the school in which enrollment is sought with transportation provided;provide homeless children or youth with services comparable to services offered to other students including programs for children with disabilities and for English language learners, transportation services, educational services, career and technical education programs, programs for gifted and talented students and school nutrition programs;
9. coordinate the provision of services with local social service agencies and other agencies or entities providing services to homeless children and youth and their families;
10. review and revise any policies that may act as barriers to the identification and enrollment of homeless children and youth in schools they select;
11. provide data on the homeless students enrolled in the district as requested; and
12. that information about a homeless child’s or youth’s living situation shall be treated as a student education record, and shall not be deemed to be directory information.

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| **Superintendent’s Signature** | **Date** |
| **School District:** | |