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| **Name of Grant Program:** McKinney-Vento Homeless Emergency Support Grant **Fund Code:** 313 |

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| MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION EMERGENCY SUPPORT GRANT ASSURANCES – 2017-2018 |

The local school district receiving McKinney-Vento Emergency Support Grant funds agrees to do the following:

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 and students are eligible; that the parents or guardians of homeless students 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, are informed of their status as independent students, and may obtain assistance and verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA).
2. Presume that keeping students in their school of origin is in the student’s best interest, for the duration of homelessness and thru the end of the academic year in which the student 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 student 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 student’s best interest including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless students. If the district determines it is not in the student’s best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, then 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 student, even if the student is unable to produce records or documentation normally required for enrollment, and immediately contact the school last attended by the student to obtain relevant academic and medical records.
6. Immediately refer the parent or guardian of the student 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 student so that the records are available, in a timely fashion, when a student 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 student immediately to the school in which enrollment is sought with transportation provided; provide homeless students 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 by the Department.
12. Treat information about a homeless student’s living situation as a student education record, and ensure it is not deemed to be directory information.

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