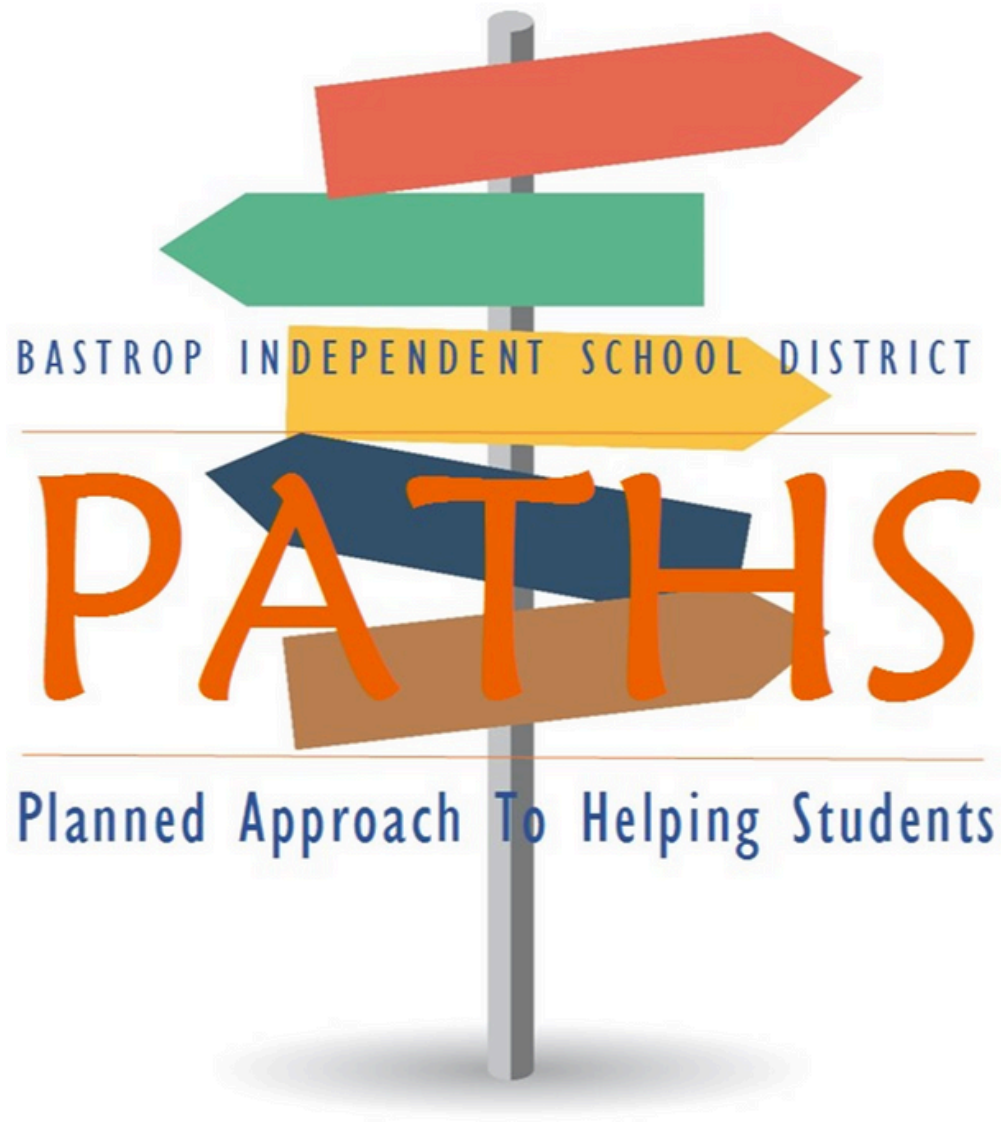
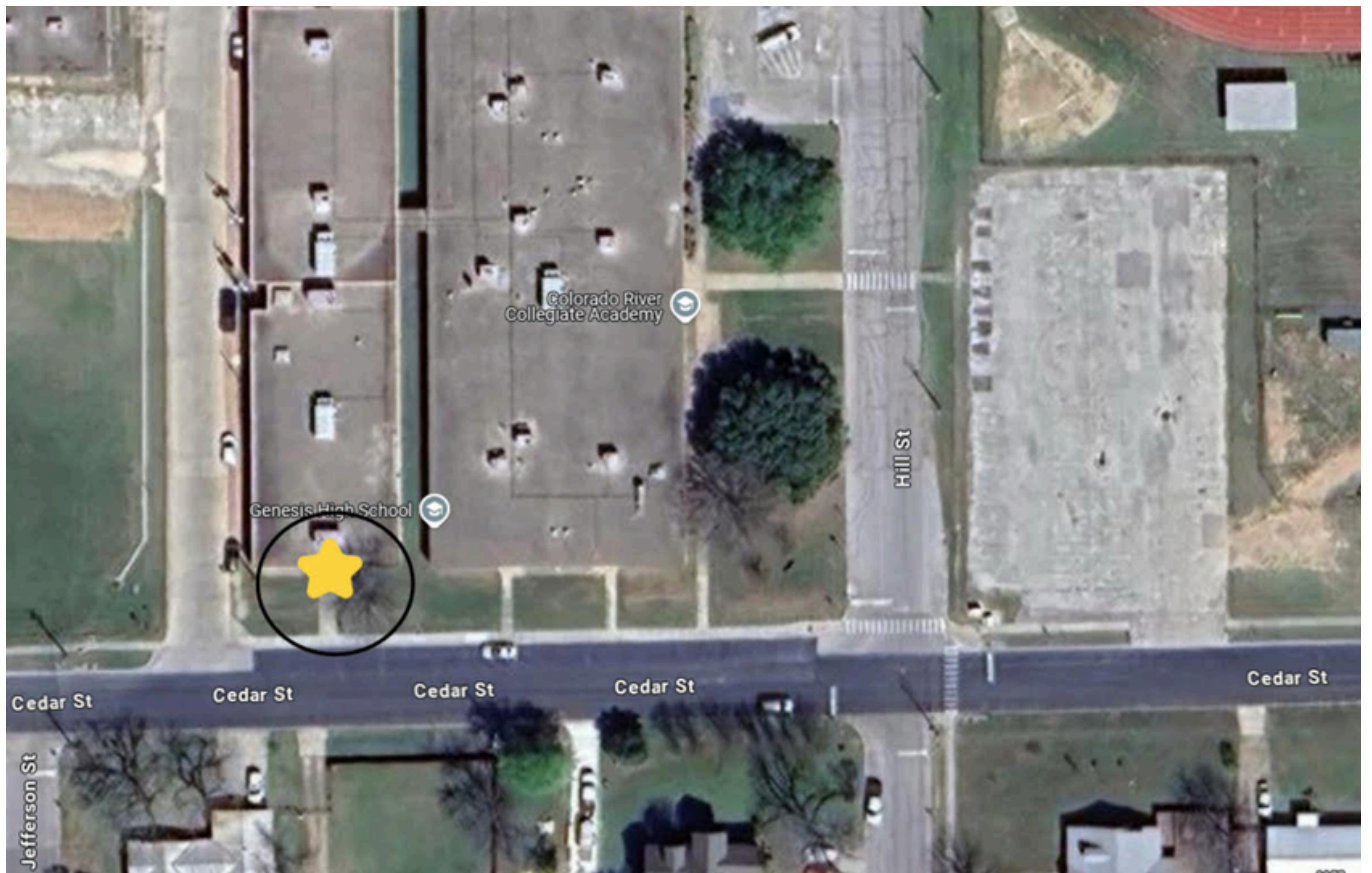


Welcome to the BISD
PATHS Project



25-26 School Year



Introduction

The BISD Family Resource Center's primary mission is to support families' capacity to raise healthy, well-functioning children, and promote student achievement and family engagement through a broad array of prevention and early intervention services. These services are developed and delivered according to the unique needs of families. The services specifically emphasize outreach to traditionally underserved populations to increase access to basic services and engagement in school.

Support at the center may include direct services, counseling, referrals, application assistance for benefits, and adult/parenting education opportunities. BISD families are welcome to utilize the following services:

- Basic Needs
- Housing
- Employment
- Social Connections
- Continuing Education
- Notary Public Services

At the Family Resource Center is also the BISD Health Clinic, which is a joint partnership between Community Health Centers of South Central Texas, Bluebonnet Trails, and the Bastrop Independent School District. This pediatric clinic is available to all BISD students and their siblings, takes most insurance, and offers a sliding scale for families without insurance. Children have access to medical care, mental health care, and eventually, dental care. To schedule an appointment, call [512-772-4887](tel:512-772-4887).





**If you or someone
you know is
experiencing a
homeless crisis,
please call the
Homeless Crisis
Hotline at 1-888-
411-6802**

We are here to help!

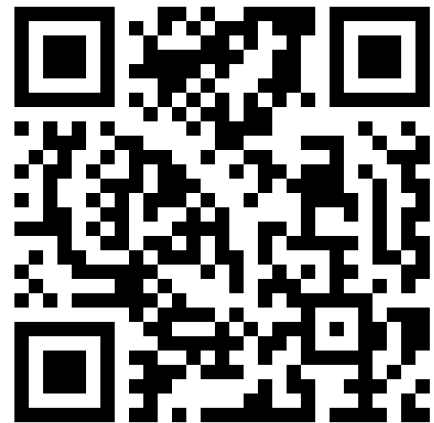


**CALL US AT
512-772-7151
or
512-772-7133**



**EMAIL US AT
NSANCHEZ@BISDTX.ORG**

**Visit our webpage at
Bastrop ISD Family
Resource Center and Health
Clinic or scan the QR code
below**



COMMON SIGNS OF HOMELESSNESS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- **Lack of educational continuity**
- **Poor health/nutrition**
- **Transportation and attendance issues**
- **Social and behavioral concerns**
- **Reactions or statements by parents, guardians, or students**

These statements could include:

- **“I don’t remember the name of the last school.”**
- **“We’ve been moving around a lot.”**
- **“Our address is new.”**
- **“I can’t remember it.”**
- **“We’re staying with relatives until we get settled.”**
- **“We’re going through a bad time right now.”**

REMEMBER: HOMELESS YOUTHS’ POSSIBLE LIVING SITUATIONS COULD INCLUDE:

- **Living with friends (couch surfing)**
- **Living in shelters, transitional housing, motel/hotel**
- **Living in cars, campgrounds, abandoned buildings, public spaces, or on the street**
- **Living outside of the physical custody of their parent(s)**



WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

- **If you or someone you know needs support or information about local and school resources, please contact the Family Resource Center at 512- 772-7151.**
 - **Reach out to the school’s counselor/support staff and let them know that the student/family may be experiencing homelessness.**
 - **Make sure the student/family has completed a new SRQ form (Student Residency Questionnaire) at their campus.**
 - **Tell the counselor/ support staff about any transportation issues the student might have. They may be eligible for bus passes or special transportation arrangements.**
 - **Let your counselor/ support staff know that the student/family needs food, toiletry/hygiene items, school supplies, and/or uniforms.**
 - **The Family Resource Center is here to help!**
-

RIGHTS OF A STUDENT OR PARENT EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS:

These include:

- **Keeping children in the same school even if they move and receive transportation to that school, as long as it is in the student's best interest.**
- **Enrolling in school immediately without the documents schools usually required**
- **Receiving free school meals.**
- **Getting help with school supplies and other needs**
- **Receiving extra support for youth who are on their own.**
- **Connecting young children with early childhood services.**

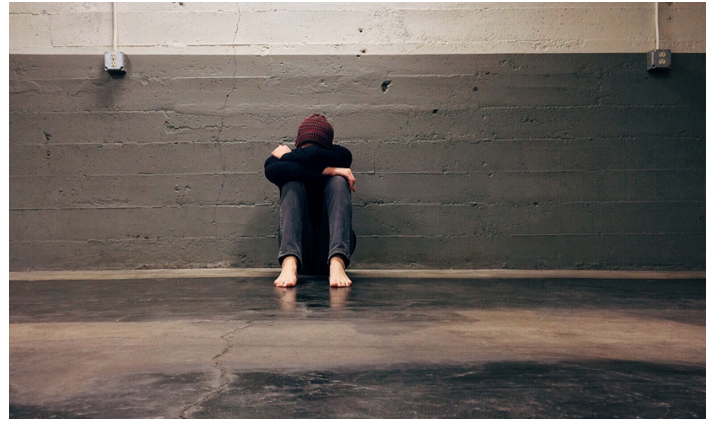
The PATHS Project Program:

- **Assists with enrollment, school transportation, and school supplies.**
- **Provides emergency food and hygiene items.**
- **Offers referrals to additional resources for food, housing, and other specific needs.**
- **Provides referrals to counseling and medical services as needed.**

Remember....

Homelessness doesn't always mean living on the streets — it includes being “doubledup,” living in shelters, living in hotels/motels, or anywhere that isn't a “fixed, regular, and adequate” nighttime residence. If a student/family identifies as homeless and would like to enroll at your campus, remember:

- They can attend any school of their choosing
 - They can enroll even if they are missing important documents, such as birth certificates, shot records, etc. (30 days).
 - Campus staff cannot ask for “proof” if a student/family is experiencing homelessness.
 - Students cannot be forced to change their enrollment status from a campus-based on their housing status (school of origin).
 - When a student is identified and coded as homeless (through the Student Residency Questionnaire), work with the BISD Family Resource Center to assist the family with necessary items and potential transportation support. Help is available!
 - We are all here to support our students and their learning. Lead with Kindness and Compassion!
-



IF YOU ARE A HOMELESS YOUTH OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS, HERE ARE SOME TIPS:

- **You don't need to feel guilty or ashamed.** Whatever happened to put you in this situation was out of your control. You are not to blame!
- **There are people who care.** Tell a trusted adult, such as a teacher, pastor, school liaison, principal, or counselor, about your situation. Letting authority figures know you are homeless will allow people to help you and get you the support you need.
- **Help is available.** In your school community, there are places and programs that help homeless youth stay in school, obtain services like access to food, showers, and medical care, and provide shelter and a safe place to sleep. For support and information about local and school resources, please contact the BISD Family Resource Center:
 - Call: **512-772-7151 or 512-772-7133**
 - Email: **nsanchez@bisdtx.org or magustiniano@bisdtx.org**
 - Visit: **<https://www.bisdtx.org/domain/4037>**

If you are a homeless youth in need of immediate safety, contact your local Safe Place program:

- **Use TXT 4 HELP**, text the word "safe" and your current location (city/state/zip) to 4HELP (44357). Within seconds, you will receive a message with the closest Safe Place site and phone number for the local youth agency. You will also have the option to text interactively with a professional for more help. It's quick, easy, safe, and confidential.
- **Or, if you are in immediate danger, dial 9-1-1.** Don't be afraid to ask for help. You are worth it, and help is available!

Bastrop County Resources

Food Resources

Open Door Soup Kitchen

512 317-7503 or 512- 318-9539
Hours: Mon - Fri, 9 AM - 3 PM
987 N State Hwy 95, Bastrop TX 78602

Primera Baptist Church Food Pantry

512-718-7807
Food pantry and clothing closet for area residents
(Emergency Food Needs: 512-731-7807)
Food Distribution: 1st and 3rd Sat of the month, 7 AM-11 AM.
306 Paul Bell St Bastrop, TX 78602

Bastrop County Emergency Food Bank

512-303-0033
For Bastrop County residents
Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, 8 AM - 11:30 AM, 1 PM - 3:30 PM
806 Fayette St, Bastrop TX 78602

Smithville Food Pantry

512-237-2322 or 512-461-1691
Food pantry for area residents
Hours: Wed, 9 AM-11:30 AM
301 Lee Street, Smithville, TX 78957

Feed the Need Missions

512-987-2924
bastrop@feedtheneed.org
1067 State Hwy 71 W, Bastrop, TX 78602

Ridgeway Baptist Church

979-716-1887
Operates a mobile food pantry
Food Distribution: 1st Wed of the month, 9 AM- 10 AM
153 Ridgeway Cemetery, Paige, TX 78659

Grace Baptist Church

Handouts of fresh and shelf-stable foods
512-303-3891
Food Distribution: Fri, 7 AM-9:15 AM
115 Sorrell, Red Rock, TX 78662

Food Resources (cont.)

First Baptist Church of Bastrop

512-303-3221
Food pantry for area residents
Food Distribution: Tues, 2 PM-4 PM
1202 Water St., Bastrop, TX 78602

Seventh Day Adventist Food Pantry

Food pantry for area residents
Drive through and pick up options
Hours: 2nd and last Fri of the month, 1 PM-5 PM

Elgin Community Cupboard

(512) 285-4552
Food distribution
Hours: Tuesday 10 AM - 12 PM
303 N. Avenue C, Elgin, TX 78621

Emergency Shelter/Housing

Family Crisis Center

512-303-7755
Support services during/after the crisis of domestic or sexual violence
Walk-in services are available Mon-Fri, 8 AM- 5 PM
431 Old Austin Hwy, Bastrop, Texas.
24-Hour Crisis Hotline: 888-311-7755

Hands Up High

Evangelist Roland Nava
512-317-7503
987 Texas 95, Bastrop, TX 78602
<https://www.itshuh.org>

ARMS of Hope

651-308-4748
<https://armsofhope.org>

Salvation Army

512-466-0679

Advocacy Outreach

512-281-4180
Clothing and household goods closet
200-A Depot St. Elgin, TX 78621
Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 AM - 5 PM
www.advocacyoutreach.org

Camp Haven

737-278-0293
Camping accommodations
549 Mesquite Drive, Cedar Creek, TX 78612
<https://www.camphavensanctuary.org/programs-and-services>

Pregnancy Related Resources

BISD Family Resource Center

512-772-7151 or 512-772-7193

Clothes closet, notary public, and social services

Hours: Mon- Fri, 8 AM - 5 PM

1602 Hill St., Bastrop, TX 78602

Ladies of Charity

512-321-9819

Assistance with utilities, rent, food, and medicine

Hours: Mon, Wed., Fri, & Sat, 1 - 5 PM

1202 Pine St., Bastrop, TX 78602

Bastrop Prescription Assistance Program

512-581-7177

Assistance with low-income and/or without insurance living in Bastrop County.

Hours: Mon- Fri, 8 AM - 5 PM

804 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602

Pregnancy Resource Center

512-409-3400

Training classes, referrals, pregnancy testing, and other resources

Hours: Mon-Thur 9 am - 5 pm

125 Lower Red Rock Rd, Bastrop, TX 78602

Medical Health Services

Bastrop Community Health Center

512-321-7137

275 Jackson St., Bastrop, TX 78602

BISD Health Center

512-772-4887

Pediatrics

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 AM - 5 PM

1602 Hill St., Bastrop, TX 78602

Lone Star Circle of Care

877-800-5722

Medical care for all ages

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 AM - 8 PM

605 Old Austin Hwy, Bastrop TX 78602 (Behind HEB)

Medical Health Services (cont.)

Texas Department of Health Services

512-321-3982

Hours: M-Thurs, 7 AM - 6 PM

104 Loop 150 W., Suite 102, Bastrop, TX 78602

St David's Hospital

512-816-2300

3201 Hwy 71 East

Bastrop, TX 78602

Wesley Nurse-Bastrop United Methodist Church

1201 Main St Bastrop

512-412-6277 or 512-308-2532

Military Connected Resources

Military One Source

800-342-9647

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

Restoration Ranch

Equine Therapy

172 Hills Prairie Road Unit A, Bastrop, TX 78602

VFW Unmet Needs

866-789-6333

www.vfw.org/assistance/financialgrants

CARTS NOW

(512) 505-5666

Free rides to Veterans for medical trips

Veterans Service Officer

Tomika Nowlin

(512) 581-4006

Email: tomika.nowlin@co.bastrop.tx.us

<https://www.facebook.com/Bastrop-County-Veterans-Service-Office-201661036603192/>

Military Connected Resources (cont.)

Austin VA Clinic

1-800-423-2111

7901 Metropolis Drive Austin, TX 78744-3111

Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation

<https://www.txngfsf.org/t>

866-789-6333

www.vfw.org/assistance/financialgrants

Texas National Guard Family Support
Foundation

<https://www.txngfsf.org/>

Hands Up High Ministry

1-888-487-4846

Shelter for disabled veterans and their families

987 N SH 95, Bastrop, TX 78602

Texas Veterans Commission

512-463-6564

Question, Comment or Complaint

Advocate and provide service for veterans

Foster Care Resources

CASA

512-303-2272

Court appointed special advocates to support
youth in foster care.

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 AM-5 PM

507 Water St., Bastrop, TX 78602

Child Protective Services (CPS)

512-321-3995

Service to children and families in their own
homes.

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 AM-5 PM

3809 TX-150 Loop, Bastrop, TX 78602

Important District Contact Numbers

Main Line: 512-772-7100

- **Child Nutrition:** 512-772-7153
- **Family Resource Center:** 512-772-7133
- **Transportation:** 512-321-5262 or 512-321-5706
- **Student Services Department:** 512-772-7121
- **BISD Health Center:** 512-772-4887
- **Nurse Coordinator:** 512-772-7249
- **Special Programs/Services:** 512-772-7835
- **Technology Help Desk:** 512-772-7199
- **Child Care & After School:** 512-772-7174
- **Counselor Coordinator:** 512-772-7256

Important Campus Contact Numbers

Elementary Schools

Adelton Elementary

512-772-7760

Counselor: Jennifer Blum
jblum@bisdtx.org

Bluebonnet Elementary

512-772-7680

Counselor: Ms. Stephanie Reininger
sreininger@bisdtx.org

Camino Real Elementary

512-772-7728

Counselor: Ms. Sonetriya Haston
shaston@bisdtx.org

Cedar Creek Elementary

512-772-7600

Counselor: Ms. Gia Newell
gnewell@bisdtx.org

Colony Oaks Elementary

512-772-7757

Counselor: Ms. Farrah Porter
fporter@bisdtx.org

Emile Elementary

512-772-7620

Counselor: Ms. Ronda Herman
rherman@bisdtx.org

Elementary Schools (cont.)

Lost Pines Elementary

512-772-7700

Counselor: Mrs. Martha Leal
mleal@bisdtx.org

Mina Elementary

512-772-7640

Counselor: Johanna Sanchez
jsanchez9@bisdtx.org

Red Rock Elementary

512-772-7660

Counselor: Ms. Jennifer Whitten
jwhitten1@bisdtx.org

Middle Schools

Bastrop Middle School

512-772-7400

7th Grade Counselor: Christine Rector
crector@bisdtx.org

8th Grade Counselor: Denise Bell
dbell@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Ms. Catherine Bailey
cbailey@bisdtx.org

Middle Schools (cont.)

Riverside Middle School

512-772-7450

Counselor: Stephanie Luna Griggs
slunagriggs@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Ms. Catherine Bailey
cbailey@bisdtx.org

Cedar Creek Middle School

512-772-7425

7th Grade Counselor: Denise Rogers
drogers@bisdtx.org

8th Grade Counselor: Mr. David Brady
dbrady@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Ms. Heather Hohertz
hhohertz@bisdtx.org

Creekside Middle School

512-772-7475

Counselor: Robyn Rosier
rrosierbettencourt@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Heather Hohertz
hhohertz@bisdtx.org

High Schools

Bastrop High School

512-772-7200

Counselor (A-G): Paula Rodriguez
prodriguez@bisdtx.org

Counselor (H-O): Ms. Claudia Nevares
cnevares@bisdtx.org

Counselor (P-Z): Mrs. Paula Rodriguez
prodriguez1@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Mrs. Barbara Gaona
bgaona@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Ms. Demeen Tilley
dtilley1@bisdtx.org

Cedar Creek High School

512-772-7300

Counselor (A-F): Ms. Joanie Granado
jgranado1@bisdtx.org

Counselor (G-N): Mr. Kenneth Parker
keparker@bisdtx.org

Counselor (O-Z): Ms. Elva Alfaro
ealfaro@bisdtx.org

Counselor (9th grade): Mrs. Megan Butler
dbutler1@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Mr. Adrian Martinez
amartinez@bisdtx.org

Social Worker: Ms. Schyler Hunt
shunt@bisdtx.org

CRCA/Genesis High School

512-772-7230

Counselor: Tiffany Jimenez
tijimenez@bisdtx.org

Gateway/DAEP

512-772-7820

Secretary/Registrar: Dalia Carbajal
dcarbajal@bisdtx.org

Student Handbooks & Guidelines

Please visit the Bastrop Independent school website at
bisdtx.org
Parent and students
Student handbook and guidelines.

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Additional Documents & Forms

- **Service Animal Form**
- **Service Animal Form (Español)**
- **Intent to Homeschool**
- **Student Data Release**
- **Student Data Release (Español)**

Additional Information About Rights and Services Under the McKinney-Vento Act

Children and youth experiencing homelessness face unique challenges in accessing and succeeding in school. Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, reauthorized in 2015 by Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.; hereafter the McKinney-Vento Act), establishes the definition of homeless used by U.S. public schools, and the educational rights to which children and youth experiencing homelessness are entitled.

What is the McKinney-Vento Homeless Definition?

The term “homeless children and youth”:

A. means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and

B. includes –

- i. children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- ii. children and youths who have 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...;
- iii. children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- iv. migratory children...who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii)

What rights do students have under McKinney-Vento?

The right to immediate enrollment. A school must immediately enroll a homeless student, even if the student does not have the documents normally required for enrollment, such as academic and medical/immunization records or proof of residency. Once enrolled, the Homeless Education Liaison of the school must help the family obtain the necessary records and/or immunizations.

The right to choose what school to attend.

- Students have the right to continue attending their “school of origin”. The “school of origin” is the school where the child or youth was last enrolled or the school the child or youth was attending when s/he became homeless. The school district shall keep a student in the “school of origin” unless it goes against the wishes of the parent. The student also has the option of enrolling in the school where he is currently living. (continued on next page).
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- the school requested by the parent, the district must provide the parent with a written explanation of the decision, which includes the right to appeal the decision.
 - The school district must make placement decisions based on the best interests of the student.
 - If a student obtains permanent housing during the school year, the student has the right to stay in their current school until the end of the school year.

The right to transportation.

- The parent or guardian (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the school homeless liaison) of a homeless student may request that transportation be provided to and from school. If the student is still in the same district as the school of origin, the school district must provide transportation. If the student is not living within the district of the school of origin, the district of origin and the district where the student is living must determine how to share transportation costs and responsibilities. If the districts cannot come to an agreement, then the responsibility and costs must be shared equally. In general, transportation time should be limited to one hour or less in each direction.
- Please note, the transportation provisions of McKinney-Vento only apply to students who are currently homeless. If a student obtains permanent housing and continues to attend his/her school of origin until the end of the school year, the continued provision of transportation is at the discretion of the district of origin.
- The right to participate in the same programs and activities as other students.
- Homeless students have the same rights as all other students to participate in School Nutrition, after-school, and special education programs
- Homeless students who qualify for special education services must be provided appropriate services based on the information that is available to the school. A school may not delay providing such services based on the non-receipt of school records.

Under the Act, every school district is required to have a Homeless Education Liaison. It is the job of the Liaison to ensure that homeless students have the same opportunities as all other students, which includes ensuring that homeless students are able to attend school, arranging for transportation in a timely manner, keeping the school staff informed of the rights of homeless students and providing appropriate referrals to service providers.

Bastrop ISD designated Homeless Liaison

Nataly Sanchez

Call: 512-772-7151 or 512-772-7133

Email: nsanchez@bisdtx.org or magustiniano@bisdtx.org

School Enrollment and Services for Foster Care Students

Under Texas law, students in foster care are entitled to immediate enrollment when arriving at a new school or district – regardless of whether they have the necessary documentation and paperwork. CPS caseworkers are required to enroll a child in school within three (3) school days of the child either: a) being placed in CPS custody; or b) moving to a new school or placement. The caseworker then has up to 30 days to provide all necessary enrollment paperwork to the new school.

Follow up to ensure a student:

- Has his or her records requested and received;
- Is placed in the appropriate grade level and classes;
- Receives his or her books; and
- Receives special education services, if appropriate.

Texas Systems Working Together to Transform Education Outcomes of Students in Foster Care

The following laws are identified in the Texas Education Code addressing students in foster care:

- Data sharing and data collection requirements in PEIMS - [TEC § 7.029 \(Chapter 1 \(PDF\), p. 16; Chapter 5 \(PDF\), pgs. 45-46\)](#)
- Immediate school enrollment without records - [TEC § 25.002\(g\) \(Chapter 7 \(PDF\), p. 56\)](#)
- Attendance in the school the student was enrolled immediately before entering conservatorship, even when placed outside of the district attendance zone until the student successfully completes the highest grade level offered by the school - [TEC § 25.001\(g\) \(Chapter 8 \(PDF\), p. 62\)](#)
- Excused absences for court-ordered appointments - [TEC § 25.087 \(Chapter 10 \(PDF\), p. 75\)](#)
- 11th or 12th-grade student who transfers to a new school district and does not meet the graduation requirements of the new school district may request a diploma from the former school district, when on track to graduate at the previous school - [TEC § 28.025 \(Chapter 9 \(PDF\), p. 92\)](#)
- Free eligibility for PRE-K - [TEC § 29.153\(b\)\(6\) \(Chapter 10 \(PDF\), p. 74\)](#)
- Accelerated instruction (at-risk indicators and compensatory education) - [TEC § 29.081\(d\)\(11\) \(Chapter 6 \(PDF\), p. 51; Chapter 11 \(PDF\), pgs. 82-83\)](#)
- Free lifetime college tuition and fee waiver. The waiver is activated when a student enrolls in dual credit or another course where a student may earn college credit- [TEC § 54.366 - \(Chapter 13 \(PDF\), pgs. 104-106\)](#)
- School districts and open-enrollment charter schools are required to appoint a Foster Care Liaison and notify TEA of their Foster Care Liaison appointment - [TEC § 33.904 \(Chapter 5 \(PDF\), p. 44\)](#)
- Transition Assistance from one school to another of students in foster care - [TEC § 25.007 \(Chapter 11 \(PDF\), pgs. 84-91\).](#)

Bastrop ISD designated Foster Care Liaison

Dr. Janel Morris

Call: 512-772-7000
