



Homeless Student Enrollment Dispute Resolution Process

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school:

1. The parent or guardian will be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or youth to appeal the decision (use Enrollment Denial Explanation form)
2. The student will be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute
 - a. This includes full participation in activities and transportation assistance as required
3. The student, parent, or guardian will be referred to the district Homeless Specialist who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible after receiving notice of the dispute (Dispute Resolution form)
4. In the event of an unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Specialist will ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in school pending resolution of the dispute.

State of Iowa Code Chapter 33 281-33.3(7):

f. Ensure that enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 11432(g)(3)(E), which requires the following:

(1) The child or youth shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute;

(2) The parent or guardian of the child or youth shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or youth to appeal the decision;

(3) The child, youth, parent, or guardian shall be referred to the local educational agency liaison designated under this subrule, who shall carry out the dispute resolution process set forth in rule 33.9(256);

(4) In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the local educational agency liaison shall ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought pending resolution of the dispute;

g. Ensure that the parent or guardian of a homeless child or youth, or the unaccompanied youth, is fully informed of all transportation services and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school of enrollment;

h. Coordinate and collaborate with state coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youth.

Please contact the district Homeless Specialist regarding questions related to the dispute resolution process for homeless youth.

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