

Tips for Families about Transportation Services

Your school's Homeless Education Program helps children who are living in a temporary housing situation. The program keeps children in school and supports their learning.

Frequently Asked Questions

Under the Homeless Education Program, families (parents, caretakers, or legal guardians) have certain choices where their children can attend school after they move.

The choices are:

- **The school of origin:**

the school your children last attended or the school they attended when your family moved to a temporary housing situation; or

- **A new school:**

the attendance area school for the area in which you are now staying.

If you choose to enroll your children at a new school, ask the school staff about transportation services.

Why would I choose to have my children stay at their school of origin?

Staying in the same school helps children continue learning and keep friendships. Each time children change schools, they lose three to six months of progress. Whenever possible, it is better for your children to continue at their school of origin.

How long may my children remain at their school of origin?

Children may remain at the school of origin until the end of the school year in which the family becomes permanently housed.

How can my children stay at their school of origin if we do not have a car, do not live near public transportation, or do not have enough money to pay for transportation?

The school district will offer safe transportation services to help your children stay at the school of origin. If you request it, the school district will set up a plan for getting your children to and from their school of origin.

Does providing transportation mean door-to-door transportation?

Generally, no. However, the student's safety is considered when the school district sets up transportation.

What transportation services are offered by a school district?

Transportation services are different for each school district. Transportation may be by school buses, public transit, taxi, or van services. If the family has a car, the school district might offer to pay for gas to and from the school of origin.

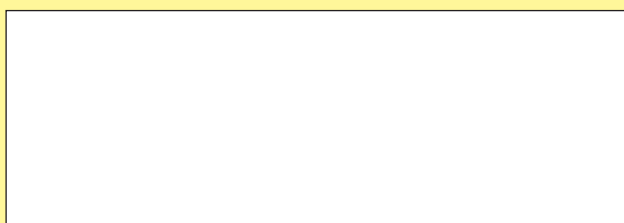
Is transportation offered if your children's school of origin is in another school district?

Yes.

If a district does not offer transportation to summer school for other students, does it have to provide summer school transportation for my children?

Generally, no. However, if summer school is required for a student to pass to the next grade, transportation might be offered.

For more information, you can discuss your school choices and transportation services with your local homeless education liaison:



Illinois State Board of Education
Illinois McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program Hotline:

1-800-215-6379

www.isbe.net/homeless