



2019-2020

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and Unusual Circumstance Verification

Financial Aid Office
3200 West C Street
Torrington, WY 82240
p: 307.532.8224
f: 307.532.8222
financialaid@ewc.wy.edu

Either through personal conversation with a Financial Aid staff member, or through the FAFSA, you have indicated that you received a determination on or after July 1, 2018, that you were either an unaccompanied youth who was homeless, at risk of being homeless, or have an unusual circumstance due to abuse or neglect, parental abandonment, or other situations where contact between you and your parent(s) is non-existent. You may be eligible for additional educational services through Title X, Part C, Federal McKinney-Vento Assistance Act. Additional information and resources are included on this form.

RESOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

Beginning with the 2009-2010 academic year, the definition of an “independent student” was expanded to include any applicant who had been **verified during the school year in which the application is submitted as either:**

- An unaccompanied youth who is a homeless child or youth, as such terms are defined in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; or
- An unaccompanied youth who is at risk of homelessness **and** is also self-supporting.

Critical Definitions

- **McKinney-Vento and CCRAA Definition of Homelessness:**
Children who **lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence** which includes
 - Living in shelters, motels, cars, OR
 - Temporarily living with other people because the applicant had nowhere else to go.The education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act is overseen by the U.S. Department of Education. For more information, see: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html>
- **Unaccompanied Youth:** Unaccompanied homeless youth are young people who **lack safe, stable housing** and who are not in the care of a parent or guardian. They may have run away from home or been forced to leave by their parents. Unaccompanied youth live in a variety of temporary situations, including shelters, the homes of friends or relatives, cars, campgrounds, public parks, abandoned buildings, motels, and bus or train stations. Also, if you are living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent, you may be considered homeless even if your parent would otherwise provide a place to live.
- **McKinney-Vento School District Liaisons:** Under subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, every school district is required to designate a liaison for students experiencing homelessness. Homeless liaisons have a number of legal responsibilities under the Act, including identifying youth who meet the definition of homeless and are unaccompanied. A local educational agency (LEA) homeless liaison, designated pursuant to 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the **McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**; To find local liaisons: contact the Office State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. See: https://nche.ed.gov/states/state_resources.php.
- **HUD-funded Shelters:** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers funding for homeless shelters and services under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Act. These funds are distributed to communities through a competitive grant process. For more information, see: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/>
- **RHYA-funded Shelters:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services administers the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act programs. These programs provide funding for Basic Centers, Transitional Living Programs, and Street Outreach Programs that serve runaway and other unaccompanied homeless youth.
 - For more information, see: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/runaway-homeless-youth>
 - The director or a designee of the director of a program funded by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. To find Runaway and Homeless Youth Act service providers go to: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grants/fysb-grantees>
- **Unusual Family Circumstance:** Young people who are not residing with a parent due to family circumstances such as abuse or neglect, parental abandonment, or other situations where contact between the student and parent(s) is non-existent. This student may meet the living circumstances described in the unaccompanied youth definition, *or* may be in a more stable living situation such as living with a friend or relative on a more permanent basis. Students in this situation may need to complete our Request for Independent Status Form.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please review the above definitions as well as the information provided on Page 3 of this form. **If a McKinney-Vento, HUD, or RHYA designated official can confirm your status, you ONLY need to submit a Liaison Letter OR page 2 of this form.** You do NOT need to complete or submit page 3 or page 4. **If a designated official cannot confirm your status, you must complete page 3 and page 4** (do not complete page 2) of this form and submit to the EWC Financial Aid Office.



2019-2020 Unaccompanied
Homeless Youth Verification Form
For the Purposes of Federal Financial Aid

Financial Aid Office 3200 West C Street Torrington, WY 82240 p: 307.532.8224 f: 307.532.8222 financialaid@ewc.wy.edu

This form is to be completed by a designated official

I am providing this letter of verification as a (check one):

- A McKinney-Vento School District Liaison
- A director or designee of a HUD-funded shelter (*shelter name*): _____
- A director or designee of a RHYA-funded shelter (*shelter name*): _____

This letter is to confirm that _____ was:
Print student name

- **an unaccompanied homeless youth after July 1, 2018.**
After July 1, 2018, the student listed above was living in a homeless situation, as defined by Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Act, and was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.
- **an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth at risk of homelessness after July 1, 2018.**
After July 1, 2018, the student listed above was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, provides for his/her own living expenses entirely on his/her own, and is at risk of losing his/her housing.

As per the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84), I am authorized to verify this student's living situation. No further verification by the Financial Aid Administrator is necessary. Should you have additional questions or need more information about this student, please contact me at the number listed below.

Authorized Signature	Date
Print Name	Phone Number
Title	
Agency	

Return completed form to:

Eastern Wyoming College
 Financial Aid Office
 3200 West C Street
 Torrington, WY 82240
 (307) 532-8224 or 1-866-327-8996 Ext 8224
 Fax: (307) 532-8222

Please note: **ALL fields are required.** If a section is left blank, or if all areas are marked "N/A" without a sufficient explanation, the form will be returned to you and marked as incomplete.

UNACCOMPANIED		SELF-SUPPORTING	
Status	When was the last time you lived with your parent(s)? <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 or earlier <input type="checkbox"/> 2018 – Month: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2019 – Month: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2020 – Month: _____	Where do you parent(s) currently reside? If not known, please write/type "not known" on the line for City. If both parents are deceased, please write/type "N/A" on the line for City. City: _____ State: _____ Country (if not United States): _____	Do you currently have a job, or have you had a job since July 1, 2018? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, currently working <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but no longer working <input type="checkbox"/> No How are your food or grocery needs being met (who pays for them)? Select all that apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Relative/Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits
	What is your parent(s) living situation? <input type="checkbox"/> On their own/with you <input type="checkbox"/> With a relative or friend <input type="checkbox"/> In a shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Both parents are deceased		

Nighttime Residence	FIXED	REGULAR	ADEQUATE	
	Is your current residence a permanent or temporary arrangement? <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary If temporary, will you be losing your current housing within the next six months to one year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A (permanent) If you are living with someone else – are you sharing the home/residence equally, or are you more like a guest? <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – living alone <input type="checkbox"/> Shared residence <input type="checkbox"/> Treated as a guest If you are living with someone else- could the household members ask you to leave? <input type="checkbox"/> N/A – living alone <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, they could ask me to leave <input type="checkbox"/> No, they could not ask me to leave	Do you stay in the same place every night? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Do you have a key to the place you are living? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No How long have you lived at your current address? <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years or more <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months to 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 6 months How long do you plan to stay at your current address? <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years or more <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months to 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 6 months How long did you live at your last address? <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years or more <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months to 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 6 months	How many bedrooms does your current residence have? <input type="checkbox"/> No bedroom (car, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 bedroom <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> 4 bedrooms or more How many bathrooms does your current residence have? <input type="checkbox"/> No bathroom <input type="checkbox"/> 1 bathroom or more Are you sleeping in a public area like a dining/living room? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sleeping in another type of public area <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping in vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> No Does your current residence have heat, electricity and running water? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Can you enter and leave the residence as you please? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

The undersigned certifies that the information provided on this form is accurate.

Print Student Name

Signature

Date

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, sentenced to jail, or both.