

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
December 20, 2016

To: All LEAs
School District Superintendents
Charter School Chief Executive Officers
Career and Technical Education Executive Officers
Intermediate Unit Executive Directors

From: Matthew Stem, Deputy Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Subject: Removal of "Awaiting Foster Care" from the Education for Homeless Youth Basic Education Circular

The Education for Homeless Children and Youths (EHCY) program, authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento Act), is designed to address the needs of homeless children and youths and ensure their educational rights and protections. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amended the McKinney-Vento Act, and changes made by ESSA took effect on October 1, 2016.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education has revised the Education for Homeless Youth Basic Education Circular. The revisions address local education agency liaison responsibilities, students awaiting foster care status, and transportation.

As of December 10, 2016 the "Awaiting Foster Care Placement" provision is removed from the Education for Homeless Youth Basic Education Circular. This removal is in accordance with ESSA.

The Education for Homeless Youth Basic Education Circular is posted on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's website at:

<http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/Codes%20and%20Regulations/Basic%20Education%20Circulars/US%20Code/Education%20for%20Homeless%20Youth.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Storm Camara, Pennsylvania Department of Education ECYEH State Coordinator, at 717-772-2066 or scamara@pa.gov.