

Nondiscrimination Notification and Contact Information

“No person shall on the basis of sex (including transgender, gender nonconforming and gender identity), marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability or genetic information be denied employment, receipt of services, access to or participation in school activities or programs if qualified to receive such services, or otherwise be discriminated against or placed in a hostile environment in any educational program or activity including those receiving federal financial assistance, except as provided by law.” No person shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society.

An employee, student, parent or applicant alleging discrimination with respect to employment, or any educational program or activity may contact:

Dr. Kathleen L. Rodgers
Equity Coordinator (Students) and
Title IX Compliance Officer
Leon County School District
2757 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
(850) 487-7306
rodgersk@leonschools.net

Deana McAllister, Labor and Relations
Equity Coordinator (Employees)
(850) 487-7207
mcallisterd@leonschools.net

A student or parent alleging discrimination as it relates to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may contact:

Karin Gerold, 504 Specialist
(850) 487-7160
geroldk@leonschools.net



Local Area Contact:

Michael B. Hightower, Coordinator
Email: hightowerm@leonschools.net

Lynn C. Givens, Support Staff
Email: givensl@leonschools.net
(850) 487-7226

F.I.T. Address:

2757 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

F.I.T. Website:

<http://www.leonschools.net/>
Domain/316

*Serving Students and Their Families
Who Lost Housing*

*Bridging the Gap between
Living in Transition
and School*

*Kathleen L. Rodgers, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent*

*Rocky Hanna
Superintendent*

Leon County Schools Families in Transition Program



Families in Transition

Program Mission

The Families in Transition Program offered through Leon County Schools is dedicated to assisting families living in transition by eliminating barriers to school enrollment, attendance, and overall academic success.

The F.I.T. Program supports the whole family by linking them with community resources in order to reach the goal of self-sufficiency.

Every Child Has the Right to an Education

If you lost your housing due to economic hardship, natural disaster, or other similar reason, and are living temporarily with friends or relatives, or in shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground; or on the street; in an abandoned building, then you are eligible to receive services provided under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Your children have the right to:

- ⇒ Go to their school of origin (the school the child or youth attended when permanently housed or where last enrolled) or zoned school.
- ⇒ Continue in the school they last attended before they lost their housing, if that is the parent/guardian's choice, and it is feasible and in the child's best interest, or the school for which they are zoned due to their current living situation.
- ⇒ Enroll and attend classes immediately while the school arranges for the transfer or school and immunization records and any other documents required for enrollment.
- ⇒ Enroll and attend classes in the school where they are seeking enrollment (school of origin or zoned school) even while the school and the parent/guardian are seeking to resolve a dispute over which school is in the best interest of the child— Note: This does not mean any school in the district, only the school of origin or zoned school.
- ⇒ Receive transportation to the school they last attended before they lost their housing (if a parent/guardian requests such transportation); however, if the student lives within two miles of the school, then transportation is not guaranteed.

F.I.T. Program Criteria

Who is homeless? (Sec. 725)

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 accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
 - (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).

To Enroll in the F.I.T. Program

If the student meets the F.I.T Program criteria submit the Student Residency Form online or contact school registrar <http://www.leonschools.net/Domain/316>

This is the ONLY document required to enroll immediately and attend classes.

McKinney-Vento Act Requirements for Schools

- ⇒ Schools must keep children in the school of origin (the school the child or youth attended when permanently housed or where last enrolled) to the extent feasible, except where contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian.
- ⇒ Children or youth's right to attend their school of origin extends throughout the duration of living in transition.
- ⇒ Schools must remove any barriers that contribute to exclusion or enrollment delay. This means schools are required to enroll immediately students living in transition, and then follow up to retrieve missing information, school records, immunization records, etc.
- ⇒ Each school must post the contact information for the district's Families in Transition Program.
- ⇒ Each school must post public notice of educational rights of children and youth living in transition.
- ⇒ Schools must ensure enrollment with full and equal opportunity for students to succeed in schools, including participation in such school education, vocational and technical, Head Start, Even Start, preschool, etc.