

Certification of Homeless Status for Texas Birth Certificate and Texas Identification Card and Driver's License



Full Name of
Homeless Child/Youth: _____

Date of Birth: _____

certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that on the date listed below, the above-named individual is a homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. I provide this certification in my capacity as (check one below):

- A designated district liaison with the school district where the child/youth listed above is enrolled
- The director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
- The director of a basic center for runaway and homeless youth
- The director of a transitional living program

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Employer: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Definition of Homeless Child or Youth, **as Defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a,** **the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**

The term “homeless children and youths”—

- means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- 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 adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
 - (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 part because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii) above.

Birth Certificates

Effective September 1, 2019: Texas Health and Safety Code §191.0049: State and Local Registrars and County Clerks shall provide birth records (birth certificates) to homeless children and youths as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, without fee or parental consent. See [here](https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/reqproc/Birth-Certificate-for-Foster-or-Homeless-Youth.aspx) (<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/vs/reqproc/Birth-Certificate-for-Foster-or-Homeless-Youth.aspx>) for more information.

Texas Identification Cards and Driver’s Licenses

Effective September 1, 2019: Texas Transportation Code §521.1015 states that a homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, may provide a copy of their birth certificate as proof of their identity and U.S. citizenship, provide a letter from one of the entities listed on this form, certifying the child or youth is homeless and does not have a residence or domicile, and obtain a personal identification certificate (Texas ID) without the signature, presence of or permission from the parent or guardian of the child or youth and be exempt from payment of the ID card fee. Texas Transportation Code §521.1811 waives the fee for a driver’s license for a homeless youth. See DPS Homeless Child or Youth Driver’s License Fact Sheet.

Additional Information

How Homeless and Unaccompanied Youth Can Get Their Texas Birth Certificate, and Texas ID Card and Texas Driver’s License under [Identification Documents](#) on TexasFosterYouth.org.

DPS Homeless Child or Youth Driver’s License Fact Sheet under [Identification Documents](#) on TexasFosterYouth.org.

DPS Homeless Child or Youth Identification Card Fact Sheet under [Identification Documents](#) on TexasFosterYouth.org.

Certification of Homeless Status for Texas Birth Certificate and Texas Identification Card and Driver’s License Form ver. 9-23-2020
Developed by Texas RioGrande Legal Aid-Texas Foster Youth Justice Project TexasFosterYouth.org.