

Unaccompanied Youth

Who are Unaccompanied Homeless Youth?

An unaccompanied homeless youth is an individual who lacks safe, stable housing and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. These students have a loss of housing due to family issues such as being kicked out by parents or leaving on their own due to family conflict. In these cases, the minor student is unable to afford housing on his/her own.

Rights of Unaccompanied Youth

- ✚ Remain in their school of origin (to the extent feasible)
- ✚ Transportation to and from school of origin
- ✚ Immediate enrollment in a new school within attendance zone without proof of guardianship or other documentation
- ✚ Equal access to programs such as gifted and talented, special education, vocational education, and English as a Second Language services
- ✚ Surrogate parent to assist with special education needs
- ✚ Appeal school and school district's decisions and immediate enrollment in school pending resolution of disputes

Other Services

- ❖ Referrals to community agencies such as local shelters, transitional living programs, street outreach teams (CTYS), and service providers for unaccompanied youth.
- ❖ Tutoring at schools and shelters and assistance in applying for financial aid for college
- ❖ Referral and assistance in applying for Food Stamps, SSI, and TANF (temporary assistance for needy families). Visit www.yourtexasbenefits.com