

LOCAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST HOMELESS STUDENTS

REQUIRED SCHOOL WEBSITE INFORMATION

84TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE - HB 1559 - TEC 33.906

SUMMARY of REQUIREMENTS:

- **All schools that maintain a website** must post information on their websites about local programs and services available to assist homeless students. This information may include charitable programs and services and organizations providing food, clothing, shelter, counseling, medical services, and other interventions for homeless students and families.
- These schools must make a **good-faith effort to collect this information and post this information in a format easily understandable by the students or parents served by the school.** District-wide resources may be listed. To the extent possible, the resources provided should be specific to each school and local community.
- A representative from a **local service or program** available to assist homeless students **may request that their information be included on the school website.** Each school may determine what will be posted and is not required to post information as requested by the representative.
- A school district is **not liable** for any harm to a student resulting from a connection with a local program or service referred to on the website as provided by this statute.
- The law **does not apply** to a school within a school district that has fewer than 3,000 students **AND** is primarily located in a county with a population less than 50,000.

COMPLYING with the LAW:

Schools must compile and post the resources and information in a format and style that is easily understandable by students or parents.

Questions for consideration:

- Is the information easy to find in a few clicks – perhaps even linked on the homepage?
- Is the information presented in a language parents and students can understand?
- Would someone unfamiliar with school language (Title-I, Federal Programs, Student Services, etc.) be able to easily locate and understand this information?

The law requires that information about local programs and services are listed. **LEAs may also include information, such as:**

- District Homeless Liaison contact information
- Listing existing resources from local/regional homeless coalitions or United Way agencies
- Linking to local service provider agency websites
- Links to homeless education sites, such as the Texas Homeless Education Office (THEO) and Education Service Center Region 10.
- Information about parent involvement opportunities
- Information for unaccompanied homeless youth
- School student success stories

See page 2 for a sample listing of resources that may be included on school websites to comply with these requirements.

To view the complete law text go to: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.33.htm> - 33.906

Students and parents in homeless situations often have access to Internet resources.

Make the most of the information you provide them!

CAMPUS NAME

Local Programs and Services Available to Assist Homeless Students

Resource Type *	Name of Agency	Street Address	City	Zip	Phone	Website	Notes/Special Instructions
Government Offices							
List: CPS, Adult Protective Services, VA offices, Texas Workforce Commission, 211, Post Office, Social Security office							
State Offices							
List: Child Care Management Services (CCMS), Child Support (AG office), DMV, Medicaid office							
Utilities Assistance							
List: Utility companies, resource centers, community service agencies, religious organizations							
Rent Assistance							
List: Community housing agencies, religious organizations, Salvation Army, City Section 8 office							
Food Assistance							
List: HHS (SNAP), religious organizations, community centers, food pantries, Red Cross and United Way agencies							
Diapers and Formula Assistance							
List: Crisis pregnancy centers, hospitals/clinics, WIC, women's services, religious organizations							
Clothing Assistance							
List: Clothing banks, social service agencies, religious organizations, Salvation Army, United Way, discount shoe stores							
Housing, Temporary Housing, Shelters							
List: Day shelters, emergency and domestic violence shelters, youth shelters, Salvation Army, missions, community services							
Health Services							
List: Catholic Charities, United Way, family discount dental clinics, Medicaid, county health clinics, mobile services, VA clinics, AIDS programs							
Counseling							
List: Campus counselors, addiction programs, crisis centers, credit counseling, AIDS programs, support services, county health offices, VA, parenting programs							
Financial Assistance (Non-Educational)							
List: Job training programs, Workforce Solutions, Salvation Army, United Way, religious organizations, free credit report sites							
Adult Education							
List: Learning labs, rehabilitation programs, Goodwill Industries, Salvation Army							
Children's School Supplies							
List: School district homeless liaison, campus counselors, community programs							
Transportation/Car Repair							
List: Public transit, Texas DMV, community college vocational programs, community services, religious organizations, mobile repair shops, Greyhound, traveler's assistance							
Miscellaneous Items							
List: THEO office, haircuts for school, Facebook resources, discount furniture/thrift shops, legal aid, Runaway Hotline, free cell phones							
* District/school personnel should contact local community agencies and service providers to see what types of assistance and directories are available to construct a complete listing.							