

Wisconsin Technical College System and School District Partnerships

February 24, 2021



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent

Using Microsoft Teams

- We will mute everyone while we are presenting, please do not unmute yourself.
- If you have a camera on your computer please turn off the video by moving your mouse over the screen and clicking on the camera icon. It should show a line through the camera.
- To be able to use the chat function, click on the chat bubble on your screen to have the chat pop up on the right side of the screen.
- You can enter full screen by clicking on the three dots and choosing Enter Full Screen.
- We are recording the webinar.
- Feel free to enter questions into the chat at any time. We will answer at the end as time allows.



Learning Outcomes

- Understand the role of the Homeless Liaison in supporting post-secondary success for students experiencing homelessness
- Understand how Wisconsin Technical College staff support youth experiencing homelessness
- Learn strategies to begin or enhance the partnership between the school district and WTCS staff better serve students experiencing homelessness



Upcoming Opportunities

Virtual Office Hours

February 25, 12:00-1:00

March 11, 1:30-2:30

New Compliance Grant Webinar

Thursday, March 18, 9:00-10:00

Lunch Time Live

Thursday, March 18, 11:30-12:30



McKinney-Vento and Transitioning to Higher Education



Support for Academic Success: Transitioning to Higher Education

- All youth eligible under McKinney-Vento must be able to receive assistance from counselors to advise such youths, and prepare and improve the readiness of such youths for college.
- Liaisons must ensure unaccompanied youth are informed of their status as independent students and may obtain assistance from the liaison to receive verification of that status.



Higher Education Act: FAFSA and Students Experiencing Homelessness

- Youth who meet the definition of “independent student” can complete the FAFSA without parental income information or signature.
- [SchoolHouse Connection FAFSA Information](#)
- SchoolHouse Connection [FAFSA and Homeless Youth: Challenges and Recommendations in the COVID-19 Era](#)



The FAFSA (*continued*)

- Unaccompanied homeless youth are automatically considered independent students.
 - Must be determined to be unaccompanied and homeless after July 1 of the prior year.
- Youth who are unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self-supporting are also automatically considered independent students.
 - Must be determined as such during the school year in which the application is submitted.



The FAFSA (continued)

- Determination must be made by:
 - a McKinney-Vento Act school district liaison,
 - a HUD homeless assistance program director or their designee,
 - a Runaway and Homeless Youth Act program director or their designee, or
 - a financial aid administrator.
- Youth who have been in foster care at any time after age 13 are also automatically independent.
- More info and sample letters are available at:
<http://www.naehcy.org/educational-resources/higher-ed>



FAFSA Resources

- SchoolHouse Connection: [FAFSA & Homeless Youth: Challenges + Recommendations in the COVID-19 Era](#)
- SchoolHouse Connection: [The FAFSA: Four Things You Can Do to Help Homeless and Foster Youth](#)
- SchoolHouse Connection: [Federal Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\) and Youth Homelessness](#)
- NAEHCY Higher Education Helpline: NAEHCY Higher Education Helpline: 855-446-2673
- SchoolHouse Connection: [Sample Form Letters to Determine the Independent Student Status of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth](#)



Guest Panel



Guest Panel

- **Amanda Brooks** - Student Life Coordinator, Milwaukee Area Technical College
- **Walter Lanier** - Student Resource Center Director, Milwaukee Area Technical College
- **Regina Rudoj** - Housing Assistance Program, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
- **Christina Gingle** - Homeless Education, Green Bay Area Public School District
- **Elizabeth Webb** - Homeless Education, Green Bay Area Public School District



Questions for Panelists

1. Describe your partnership or program.
2. Homeless liaisons: What student needs are you seeing regarding post-secondary transitions or access?
3. What could be done by districts and WTCS staff to make the transition to higher ed easier for students experiencing homelessness?
4. How do you connect with the school district or WTCS to support students experiencing homelessness with the transition from K-12 to higher ed?
5. What services and supports are available?
6. How do you regularly share information with students experiencing homelessness about available student services resources?



Contact Us

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Please complete our evaluation!

<https://forms.gle/EeSZN2To2JNBs8U6A>

