

La Academia Dolores Huerta Charter Middle School

I. POLICY:

La Academia Dolores Huerta (LADH) is committed to ensuring that homeless students have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education and services, provided to other students in accordance with the provisions of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq. LADH recognizes that for all students to be successful they must be provided with school stability and academic supports.

Students who qualify for this program include “Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.” This includes children/youth who are:

- sharing the housing of other people due to loss of housing or economic hardships (e.g., “doubling-up”)
- living in motels, hotels, RV parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as sleeping dwellings for humans
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings
- migratory and live in one of the above circumstances
- abandoned in hospitals or designated safe havens

The McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act provides certain rights and protections. Students experiencing homelessness have the right to:

- Free and appropriate public education
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students
- Immediately be enrolled in a local school or continue attending the school of origin (e.g., the school they attended when permanently housed or the school when they were last enrolled), whichever serves the student’s best interest.
- Immediately enroll in the local school even if required enrollment documents are unavailable (e.g., previous academic records, immunization records, health records, proof of residency, proof of guardianship, and/or proof of age) and application/enrollment deadline was missed.
- Received transportation to and from school if requested

LADH will designate a local education agency (LEA) homeless liaison who will ensure:

- Homeless students are identified by school personnel and/or through coordination with other school districts and community agencies
- Homeless students are enrolled and have equal access to all opportunities to succeed in school
- All eligible members of homeless families receive education services (e.g., Head Start) and are referred to health care, dental care, and mental health services when needed
- Parents/guardians of homeless students are informed of opportunities to participate in their student’s education
- Dissemination of information on the education of homeless children/youth

La Academia Dolores Huerta Charter Middle School

- Provide parents/guardians information about transportation services to and from school
- Mediation of enrollment disputes

II. PROCEDURE:

- 1.) At time of registration, parents/guardians will complete the homeless survey as part of their registration packet.
- 2.) LADH secretary/registrar and/or homeless liaison will review enrollment packets and identify homeless students
 - a. If an identified homeless student does not have required LADH enrollment documents, they will be immediately enrolled, and the secretary will then work with the parent/guardian to obtain academic and other records from the last school attended by the student.
 - b. If at the time of enrollment LADH has no available slots, LADH will assist the student with finding another school within the area where the family is staying.
- 3.) To ensure that all previously identified homeless students are included on the homeless student registry, LADH secretary/registrar and/or homeless liaison will review all incoming and transfer students' cumulative files when received.
- 4.) LADH secretary/registrar, in coordination with LADH homeless liaison, will maintain and update, as needed, the homeless student registry.
- 5.) LADH secretary/registrar will provide the homeless student registry to the LADH homeless liaison for review and follow-up with families.
- 6.) If a dispute arises over enrollment at LADH, the parent, guardian or unaccompanied student shall be referred to the school's liaison, who will immediately initiate the dispute resolution process after receiving notice of a dispute. [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(E)(iii)].

La Academia Dolores Huerta Charter Middle School

New Mexico Student Enrollment Form

Your child may be eligible for additional educational services depending on your housing situation. Additional services and rights include the right to stay at the same school even if you move and access to free meals at school. Eligibility can be determined by completing this questionnaire.

This form is to learn more about your family’s current housing situation. This information will remain confidential.

Housing Situation/Nighttime Residence

1.	Who does the enrolled student(s) live with? Please check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Relative <input type="checkbox"/> Other Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Alone <input type="checkbox"/> Other_____
2.	Where has student normally slept in the past 30 days? Please check all boxes that apply. <input type="checkbox"/> In a home that is owned or rented by parent or guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Staying temporarily with friends, relatives, or other people (“doubled up” or “couch-surfing”) because the student had nowhere else to go. <input type="checkbox"/> At a shelter <input type="checkbox"/> In transitional housing or an independent living program <input type="checkbox"/> At a motel or a hotel <input type="checkbox"/> In an RV or camper <input type="checkbox"/> In a car, tent, park, bus or train station, abandoned building, or other public place <input type="checkbox"/> Student does not have a usual place to sleep <input type="checkbox"/> Home situation change due to COVID-19
3.	Is your home or place you sleep at night connected to electricity, heat, and running water? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don’t know
4.	Does your home or place you sleep at night have problems with mold; vermin, such as lice, rodents, or fleas; or other significant issues? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don’t know
5.	How many other people live in your home or the place in which you sleep at night? <input type="checkbox"/> Zero to Five [0-5] <input type="checkbox"/> Six to Ten [6-10] <input type="checkbox"/> Eleven to Fifteen [11-15] <input type="checkbox"/> Sixteen to Twenty [16-20] <input type="checkbox"/> Twenty-one or More [21 +] <input type="checkbox"/> The Number Varies Every Night <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
6.	How many bedrooms are in your home or the place in which you sleep at night? <input type="checkbox"/> One [1] <input type="checkbox"/> Two [2] <input type="checkbox"/> Three [3] <input type="checkbox"/> Four or more [4 +] <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Depending on your answers to the above questions, your child(ren) may be eligible for additional support. Please list their information below.

Student(s) Names			Gender	D.O.B.	Grade	School Name
First	Middle	Last				

(Area Code) Phone number _____ Email address _____

La Academia Dolores Huerta Charter Middle School

Street Address
Zip

City

State

Print Parent/Guardian/Adult Caring for Student Name
Date

Signature

You may be contacted by your child's school, unless you check the box below:

No, please do not contact me.

** Referral made to McKinney-Vento Liaison on this date:* _____