



Office of Indian Education | McKinney-Vento Program

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Office of Indian Education and Office of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment are collaborating to increase identification of students and families navigating housing insecurity. The purpose of this document is to provide a glimpse into the services provided for our Native Community, and how that may intersect with our McKinney-Vento statewide program.

OREGON'S OFFICE OF INDIAN EDUCATION

District Programming

Does your school district receive a Title VI, Part A, Indian Education grant? If so, the school district has a comprehensive Indian Education program! The purpose of this grant is to support your district in developing a program for American Indian and Alaska Native students to:

- ❖ Meet the unique cultural, language, and education needs of such students; and
- ❖ Ensure that all students meet the challenging State academic standards.

Please visit the [Title VI webpage at the Oregon Department of Education](#) to see if your district has a Title VI program. Then, feel empowered to reach out to them for additional support.

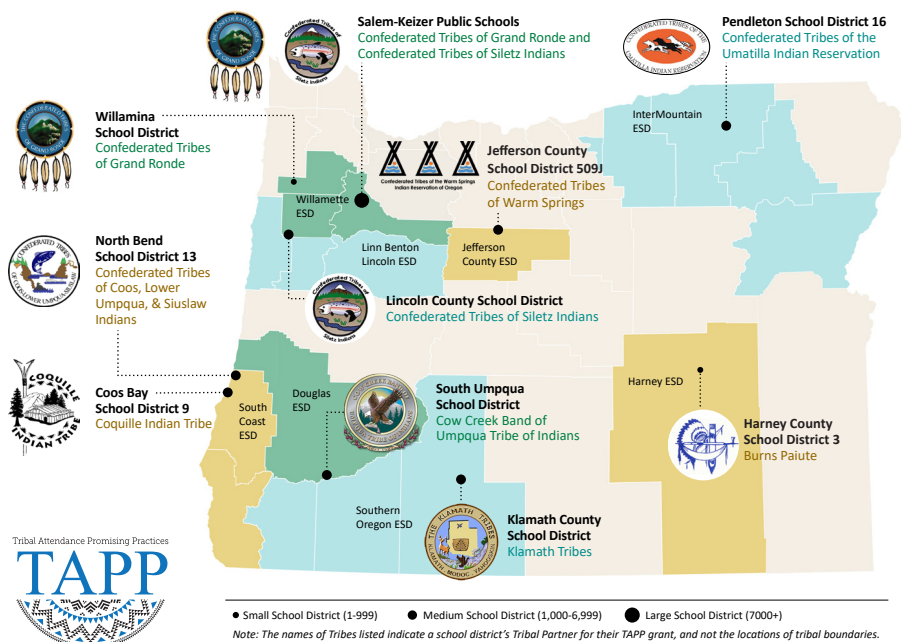
Support from the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes

Many federally recognized tribes have a [Johnson-O'Malley program](#). Each respective program may vary and may include programs which could help support you, such as culture, language, academics and dropout prevention.

Does your school district have a Tribal Attendance Promising Practices program?

If so, they have a full-time staff member who is specially trained to support Native students and their families by removing barriers to attending school regularly. Family Advocates can provide gas cards (and even a ride to school!), access to local Community Based Organizations, toiletries, backpacks, groceries, and can also work with the student and the school to create a plan to help support a student getting back on track with their education. The [Tribal Attendance Promising Practices \(TAPP\)](#) School Districts are Coos Bay, Harney County District 3, Lincoln County, Jefferson County 509J, Klamath County, North Bend, Pendleton, Salem-Keizer, South Umpqua, and Willamina.

TAPP SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND TRIBAL PARTNERS



Culturally Sustaining Support

- ❖ In the Native way, it is common to open up our homes and allow family members to stay when they need additional help. Did you know these circumstances might qualify a student in this situation for additional McKinney Vento support? Please read the eligibility section below for more information.
- ❖ As a Native person, finding ways to intentionally connect with the water and the land, as well as to traditional cultural practices, is incredibly important for feeling mentally, spiritually, and physically well in our bodies and in our mind.
- ❖ Finding connections in the community to allow you to meet other Natives is also important. Reach out and let others in on what you are experiencing; let the Native circle help!
- ❖ Even if your school district does not have a Title VI Indian Education, TAPP Program, or other type of Native Club, a trusted staff member can reach out to a local tribe in a good way to help connect a Native student or Native family to services for their tribe.

MCKINNEY-VENTO PROGRAM

The McKinney-Vento Act's Education of Houseless Children and Youth Program, ensures that houseless children and youth are provided a free, appropriate public education, despite lack of a fixed place of residence or a supervising parent or guardian.

Eligibility

If your family lives in any of the following situations you may be McKinney-Vento eligible:

- ✓ In a shelter
- ✓ In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- ✓ In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- ✓ Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

- ✓ Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- ✓ Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- ✓ Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- ✓ Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference and is feasible.
 - If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.
- ✓ Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- ✓ Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.

Source: [National Center for Homeless Education \(NCHE\)](#) NCHE - [poster](#)

Questions

Who do I contact in my school or district about housing instability resources?

[Reach out to your McKinney-Vento Liaison](#)

How does a district use funds to remove barriers for youth experiencing homelessness?

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ To acquire student documentation, e.g. birth certificates, immunization records, and other documents that families experiencing housing instability may lose or misplace
- ✓ Tutoring and academic supports
- ✓ Pay for fees to school-sponsored activities, as well as out-of-school activities

Unaccompanied Youth qualify for McKinney-Vento services

What is the definition of unaccompanied youth?

An unaccompanied youth is defined as a school aged youth or child who is not in the physical custody of a/the biological parent.

Examples Scenarios of Unaccompanied Youth

- ❖ A family experiences the loss of their matriarch. The oldest granddaughter is asked to remain back home with her great-grandparent, as he grieves the loss of his wife, so she can take care of him during this time. She enrolls in the local school.
- ❖ A young man in high school is coming of age. His mother sends him to stay with his grandparents to learn his culture and traditional ways in preparation for a ceremony this summer in honor of this transition in his life. He enrolls in the local school.
- ❖ A tragedy has impacted a family, causing the youth to experience mental health struggles after enduring this traumatic event. Their small town does not have the medical specialists to provide the youth with appropriate counseling and care. The family sends the youth to stay with their Auntie in a larger town, so the youth can receive the services they need. The youth enroll in the local school.

Source: [Supporting the Education of Unaccompanied Students Experiencing Homelessness](#) (NCHE) - [brochure](#)

