

**Section 9-7.3:2. Comparable Services; Transportation; Definitions.** — A. Each homeless student shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school attended by the homeless student including the following: (a) transportation services; (b) educational services for which the student meets the eligibility criteria, such as services provided under Title I, educational programs for children with disabilities and educational programs for English learners; (c) programs in career and technical education; (d) programs for gifted and talented students; and (e) school nutrition programs.

B. At the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison), transportation will be provided for a homeless student to and from the school of origin as follows: (a) if the homeless child or youth continues to live in the area served by Suffolk Public Schools in which the school of origin is located, the child's or youth's transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by Suffolk Public Schools; or (b) if the homeless child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by Suffolk Public Schools terminates and the child or youth, though continuing his or her ~~the student's~~ education in Suffolk Public Schools, begins living in an area served by another division, Suffolk Public Schools and the division in which the homeless child or youth is living must agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from Suffolk Public Schools. If the divisions are unable to agree upon such method, the responsibility and costs for transportation are shared equally.

C. The term "homeless student" means an individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes: (1) children and youths, including unaccompanied youths who are not in the physical custody of their parents, who (a) are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason; (b) are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations or in emergency, or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals; (c) have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or (d) are living in parked cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings; and (2) migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this policy because the children are living in circumstances described above.

The term "homeless student" also includes students who are experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or fleeing or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous, traumatic, or life-threatening conditions related to the violence against the student or a family member in the student's or family's current housing situation, including where the health or safety of children are jeopardized and who has no other safe residence and lacks the resources to obtain other safe permanent housing.

The term "migratory child" means a child who moved from one residence to another and from one school division to another in the preceding 36 months as a migratory agricultural worker or migratory fisher or with, or to join, a parent or spouse who is a migratory agricultural worker or a migratory fisher.

The term "school of origin" means the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.

The term "unaccompanied youth" includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. (Adopted January 11, 2018; Ordinance Number 17/18-34; Effective Date: January 11, 2018; Revised: February 14, 2019; Ordinance Number 18/19-51; Effective Date: February 14, 2019)

**Legal Authority** – 20 U.S.C. § 6399; 42 U.S.C §§ 11302, 11431, 11432, 11433, 11434a; Virginia Code §§ 22.1-3, 22.1-70, 22.1-78, 22.1-253.13:1, 22.1-270 (1950) as amended.