

## Does my child have the same rights as other school children?

Your child has the same rights to school programs and services as all children, including:

*School Breakfast & Lunch*  
*Before/After School Programs*  
*Preschool Programs*  
*Transportation*  
*Special Education*  
*Gifted & Talented Programs*  
*Career & Technology Education*

The Maryland State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs.

For inquiries related to departmental policy, contact:

Equity Assurance and Compliance Office  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201  
(410) 767-0425, (410) 333-6442 TTY/TDD, (410) 333-2226

Larry Hogan, Governor

Karen B. Salmon  
State Superintendent of Schools

## Who can I call if I have questions?

Carroll County Department of  
Social Services  
(410) 386-3300

Carroll County Public Schools:  
Ask for  
Homeless Education Coordinator  
(410) 386-1822

Title I Supervisor  
(410) 386-1535

Maryland State Department of  
Education:

Ask for  
Homeless Education Coordinator  
(410) 767-0314

Revised December 2018



# Know Your Rights

**Facts About Education For  
Homeless Children & Youth**



Telephone: (410) 386-1822  
Carroll County Public Schools

**If I am homeless, where will my child go to school?**

**What is in the “best interest” for my child; to stay in the same school or change schools?**

**Can my child ride the school bus?**

As a homeless parent, you have the right to decide, along with your child’s school, whether it is in the best interest of your child to:

Stay in the same school he or she attended before you became homeless (this is the “school of origin”); or transfer to the school that is closest to your new location.



To the extent that is feasible, the local school system will enroll your child in either school.

The decision about your child’s school enrollment will take into consideration factors such as:

*Special needs for your child*

*Continuity of instruction*

*Length of stay in your new location*

*Time and distance to transport your child to and from school*

If you have concerns about the school your child will attend, call the telephone number on the back of this brochure and ask for the Homeless Education Coordinator.

If I am homeless, what documents do I need to enroll my child in school?

*SCHOOL RECORDS*

*BIRTH CERTIFICATE*

*IMMUNIZATIONS*

If you do not have these documents, your child cannot be denied entry into school. The school must help you obtain any necessary documents for enrollment.

Your child’s school should help you get transportation for your child.

You cannot be denied access to the school that is in the best interest for your child because of lack of transportation.



“... the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program is to ensure that all homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool education, provided to other children and youth”

-Stewart B. McKinney

Homeless Assistance Act