

## **Certification of Homeless Status for Texas Birth Certificate And Texas Identification Card and Driver's License**

Full Name of Homeless Child/Youth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that on the date listed below, the above named individual is a homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a. The McKinney-Vento Act. I provide this certification in my capacity as (check one below):

- An official with the school district where the child/youth is enrolled
- The director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- The director of a basic center for runaway and homeless youth
- The director of a transitional living program

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Relevant Law and Definitions:**

#### **Homeless Child or Youth Defined under 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a (McKinney-Vento Act)**

Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence are considered homeless. This includes:

- (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- (ii) children and youths who 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;
- (iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings, and
- (iv) migratory children who qualify as homeless for purposes of this part because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii) above.

**Birth Certificates:** Effective September 1, 2019, Texas Health and Safety Code §191.0049 states that the state registrar, local registrar, or county clerk shall issue a birth record (birth certificate) without fee or parental consent to a foster or homeless youth as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, the McKinney-Vento Act.

**Texas Identification Cards and Driver's Licenses:** Effective September 1, 2019: Texas Transportation Code §521.1015 states that a foster or homeless child or youth, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, the McKinney-Vento Act, may provide a copy of their birth certificate as proof of their identity and U.S. Citizenship, provide a letter from one of the entities listed on this form, certifying the child or youth is homeless and does not have a residence or domicile, and obtain personal identification certificate (Texas ID) without the signature, presence of or permission from the parent or guardian of the child or youth and are exempt from the payment or fee. Texas Transportation Code §521.1811 waives the fee for a foster or homeless youth's driver license.