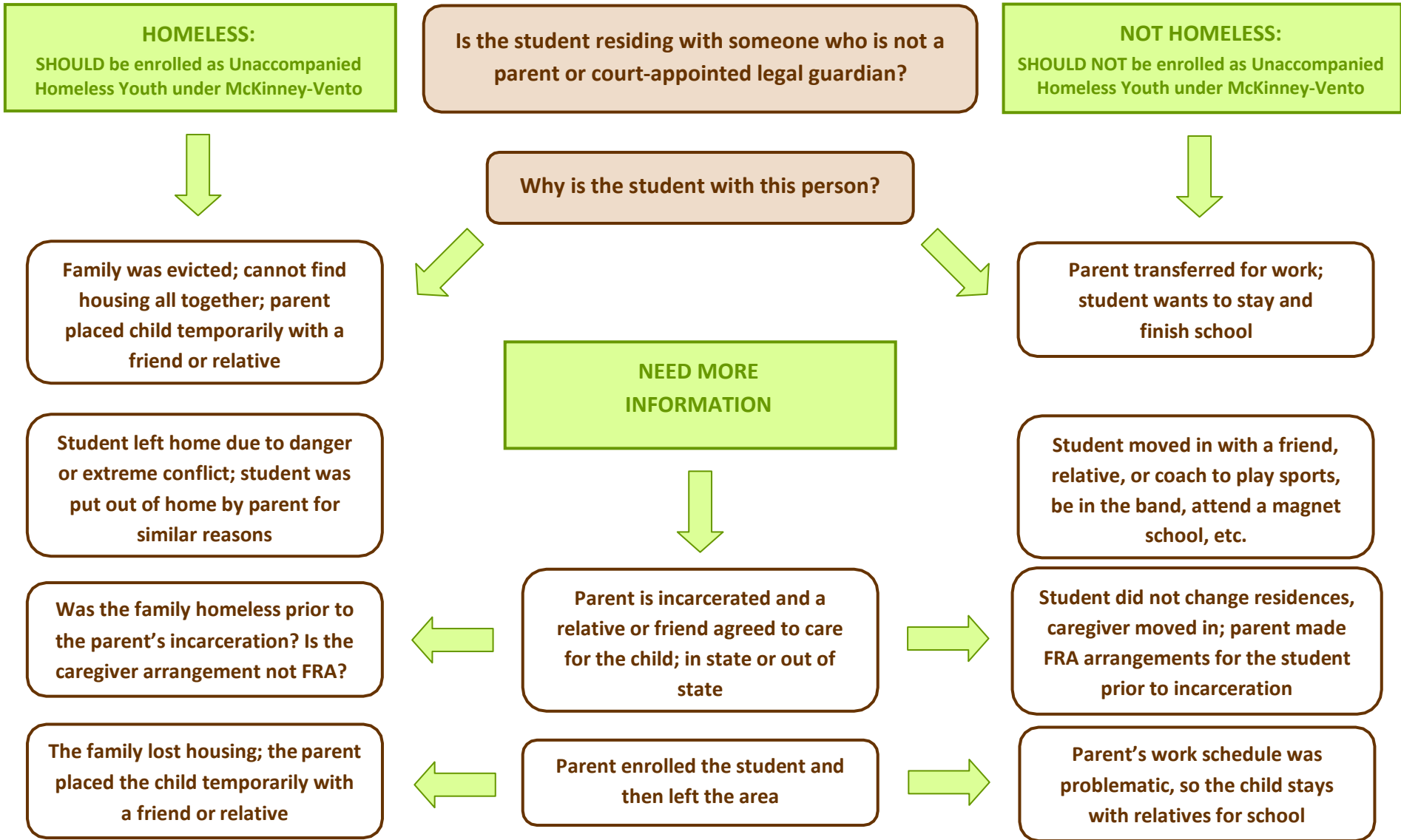




Unaccompanied Youth Eligibility Flowchart





1. Is the student residing with someone who is not their parent or court appointed guardian?

If yes, continue to the next question.

2. Does the student meet the definition of homeless under McKinney-Vento?

These are sample questions that can be asked to determine McKinney-Vento eligibility. Reminder: Homelessness is defined as “lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence”.

- Why is the student living with someone who is not their parent/guardian?
- Is the entire family homeless and this student placed in this residence as a temporary plan for housing?
- Did the student leave home because of severe family conflict?
- How long can the student continue living where he/she is?
- Does the student have his or her own space/bedroom in the residence?
- Does the student have adequate privacy?
- Can the student come and go as needed?
- Where would the student live if not able to live where they are?

If the student is considered homeless (lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence) and unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian), then they can be registered as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

If the student is not homeless and he/she is residing with a person other than the parent or court-appointed guardian, the student does not qualify as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Rights of Unaccompanied Youth

- Remain in their school of origin (to the extent feasible)
- Transportation to and from school of origin
- Immediate enrollment in a new school within attendance zone without proof of guardianship or other documentation
- Equal access to programs such as gifted and talented, special education, vocational education, and English as a Second Language services
- Surrogate parent to assist with special education needs
- Appeal school and school district’s decisions and immediate enrollment in school pending resolution of disputes