

## Question and Answer – January 2022

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These questions were submitted during the Highly Mobile and At-Risk (HM&AR) presentation on Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The questions are listed by topic.

### McKinney-Vento Programs

- Q1. If you have challenges downloading the grant application and populating the application, who should we contact?**

LEAs can contact [GrantSupport@tea.texas.gov](mailto:GrantSupport@tea.texas.gov) for assistance with downloading any grant documents.

- Q2. If the homeless student is a parent, is there any funding to provide childcare for the student's child?**

McKinney-Vento funds can be allocated for childcare. LEAs should work with local agencies to assess the services available in their area.

- Q3. Are there specific protocols or procedures that should be implemented regarding checking the runaway status of a student before designating the student as homeless?**

A student's runaway status should not impact McKinney-Vento eligibility.

### Pregnancy Related Services (PRS)

- Q4. What is the difference between remote instruction and remote conferencing?**

"Remote instruction" is a general term describing instruction that is provided remotely. "Remote Conferencing" is one of the three fundable ways this instruction may be provided. Remote conferencing may be provided to students with a temporary medical condition. For more information, please see the [Remote conferencing FAQ](#).

- Q5. If a pregnant student had an exposure to COVID and was sent home could the student be provided remote instruction?**

Refer to the [Remote Conferencing FAQ](#).

### Foster Care and Student Success

- Q6. Is the tuition & fees waiver for students who have been in foster care at any point in their lives?**

There are various qualifications for students in foster care to be eligible for tuition and fees waiver. Please visit [DFPS State College Tuition Waiver](#) and [Chapter 13 in the Foster Care and Student Success Guide](#) for more information.

**Q7. Does the Foster Care Liaison write the tuition and fees waiver letter?**

No. The DFPS [State PAL Office](#) provides the tuition and fees waiver letter. The Foster Care Liaison can support a student with securing their waiver letter and keeping track of this information.

**Q8. Does the fees waiver have to be used at the same college once it is initiated, or can a student do undergrad at one college and graduate degree plan at a different college?**

Please contact the [State PAL Office](#) for information on this topic.

**Q9. Are tuition and fees waivers available to previous graduates who did not go to college right after high school?**

Yes. The student must enroll in a course at a state-supported institution before 25. Once the student has enrolled in a course in a Texas institution before the age of 25, they are entitled to this benefit at any covered school, no matter how old the student is, as long as the state law is still in effect. This means it is very important for a student to enroll in a college course by their 25th birthday to activate this life-time benefit.

**Q10. If a student is adopted from a private agency and not DFPS, are they still eligible for the tuition and fee waiver?**

The Tuition and Fees waiver benefit is for students who are currently or were formerly in Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Managing Conservatorship. Student's who were previously adopted from Texas DFPS after September 1, 2009 are also eligible for a tuition and fees waiver benefit. See Texas [DFPS State Tuition Waiver](#) for more information on the specific eligibility criteria of these benefits.

**Q11. Can we have access to regional data of identified students in foster care?**

You can run reports by region via [TEA 2020-21 Texas Academic Performance Reports](#).

## Military-Connected

**Q12. What data is being reviewed and required to verify the military-connected student identifier?**

LEAs are not required to submit documentation of a parent/guardian's military-connected status, except for the purposes of verifying Pre-K eligibility and kindergarten entrance age.

For required Pre-K documentation, see Section 7.2.5 of the [Student Attendance Accounting Handbook](#). For students entering kindergarten before reaching 5 years old on September 1<sup>st</sup>, the parent must present proof of military-connected status within the past year.

## Other

### Q13. Where can I send questions related to program areas within the HM&AR division?

You can contact the program emails below:

- Foster Care & Student Success - [FosterCareLiaison@tea.texas.gov](mailto:FosterCareLiaison@tea.texas.gov)
- Human Trafficking Prevention - [PreventingHumanTrafficking@tea.texas.gov](mailto:PreventingHumanTrafficking@tea.texas.gov)
- Pregnancy Related Services - [PregnancyRelatedServices@tea.texas.gov](mailto:PregnancyRelatedServices@tea.texas.gov)
- Military Connected Students - [MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov](mailto:MilitaryConnectedStudents@tea.texas.gov)
- Homeless Children and Youth - [HomelessEducation@tea.texas.gov](mailto:HomelessEducation@tea.texas.gov)

### Q14. Will I receive credit or a certificate for this webinar?

No, the HM&AR Division does not provide certificates for the division webinars. The purpose of the webinars is to update and inform education stakeholders of new resources and information. Past presentations are located on [TEA's Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs](#) website. TEA is grateful for your participation and commitment to serving highly mobile and at-risk students. [Sign up for the HM&AR newsletter](#) to stay informed of future trainings!

### Q15. When are the next webinars?

The next HM&AR division webinar is scheduled for:

- Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022      1:00 - 2:30 pm CST      [Register Here](#)

### Q16. How can I receive updates on HM&AR Programs?

[Sign up for all of the HM&AR newsletters!](#) Here is the recommended list:

- Highly Mobile & At-Risk Student Programs Division
- Foster Care and Student Success
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Education
- Military Connected Students