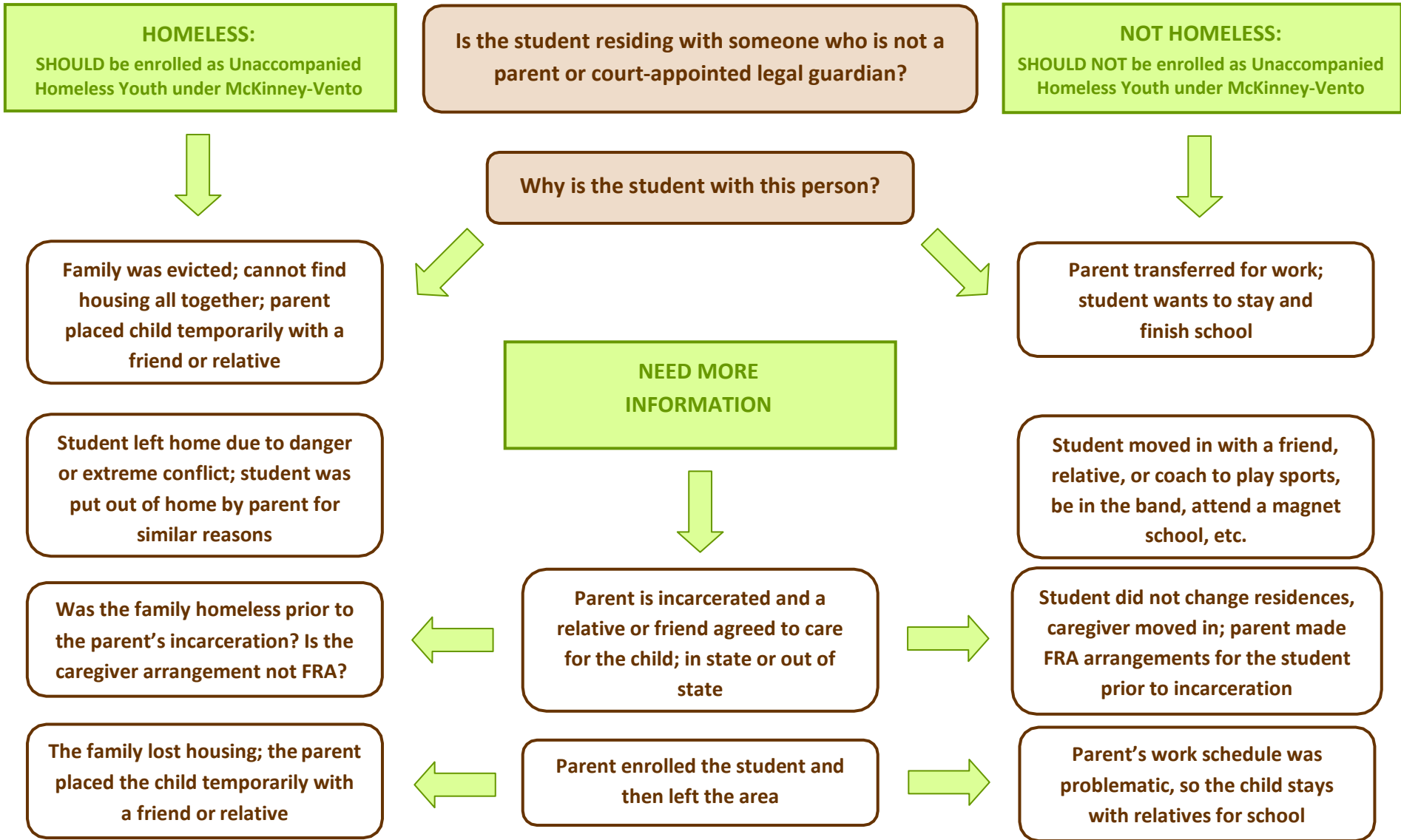




# Unaccompanied Youth



## 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