PRINCIPIA COLLEGE

One Maybeck Place
Elsah, IL 62028

618.374.2131
www.principiacollege.edu

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Verification - 2025-2026

Please read the additional information found with this form to make sure you meet the requirements to be considered an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth or Unaccompanied Youth at Risk of Homelessness. If you feel you do meet these requirements then proceed to Section A on page 2.

Important Information and Definitions

Who should submit this form?
Complete this form if you indicated on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that you are either an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or are an unaccompanied youth providing for your own living expenses who is at risk of being homeless. If you did not indicate either of these situations on the FAFSA but believe you meet the requirements to be considered an unaccompanied youth at risk of homeless based on the definitions below, then you can submit this form. If the Office of Financial Aid requires additional information, we may contact you or those you indicate on the form or in supporting documentation to verify your circumstances.

Unaccompanied – not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.
Homeless –lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, cars, hotels/motels, or temporarily living with others because not other options were available.
At risk of being homeless— when housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate, for example, a student who is being evicted and has been unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing.
Youth – means you are 23 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign your FAFSA.

Who should complete section A of this form?
A McKinney-Vento liaison, director of a HUD-funded shelter, or the director of a RHYA-funded shelter should complete section A. If you are unable to obtain verification from one of the three authorized agents in Section A, then proceed to section B.

Who are McKinney-Vento Liaisons?
Under subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, every school district is required to designate a liaison for students experiencing homelessness. Homeless liaisons have a number of legal responsibilities under the Act, including identifying youth who meet the definition of homeless and are unaccompanied. The U.S. Department of Education oversees the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act. For more information, see: https://nche.ed.gov/legislation/mckinney-vento/

What are HUD-funded Shelters?
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers funding for homeless shelters and services under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Act. These funds are distributed to communities through a competitive grant process. For more information, see: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning

What are RHYA-funded Shelters?
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services administers the Runway and Homeless Youth Act programs. These programs provide funding for Basic Centers, Transitional Living Programs, and Street Outreach programs that serve runaway and other unaccompanied homeless youth. For more information, see:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/programs/runaway-homeless-youth

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By typing my name below, I understand and agree that this form of electronic signature has the same legal force and effect as a manual signature.

Prin ID P0: _____ Student's signature: _____

First Name: _____ M.I. _____ Last Name: _____

Local Address:

_____

(If none, please list name, phone number, and mailing address of current contact)

Principia email: _____ Phone #: _____

Please read the additional information found with this form to make sure you meet the requirements to be considered an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth or Unaccompanied Youth at Risk of Homelessness.

If you are unable to obtain verification from one of the three authorized agents in Section A, proceed to section B.

SECTION A – Condition

Please select the condition that applies to you:

☐ I have received a determination of being an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless.

Actions: Attach a signed letter on company letterhead from one of the following professionals/ agencies that can attest to your status as an unaccompanied homeless youth or an unaccompanied youth who is self-supporting and at risk of becoming homeless.

- A McKinney-Vento School District Liaison (e.g., high school district homeless liaison).
- A director or designee of a HUD funded shelter (e.g., U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development funded emergency shelter or transitional housing program).
- A director or designee of a RHYA- funded shelter (e.g., emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act).

☐ I am requesting a Financial Aid Administrator determination based on third-party documentation.

Actions: Attach a signed letter on company letterhead from one of the third-party professional/agency listed below. The signed letter must attest to your status as an unaccompanied homeless youth or an unaccompanied youth who is self-supporting and at risk of becoming homeless.

- TRIO, GEAR-UP, or Upward Bound (e.g., college access programs)
- Mental Health Professional or Doctor
- Social Worker
- Clergy (e.g., church official)
- NCHE (National Center for Homeless Education) or State Coordinator for Homeless Education
- A director or designee of a homeless basic youth center (a community-based program) funded by the Family & Youth Services Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) which meets the immediate needs of runaway & homeless youth under the age of 18.

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- A director or designee of a transitional living program funded by the Family & Youth Services Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) that provide long-term residential services to homeless youth ages 16-22.

☐ I am requesting a Financial Aid Administrator determination based on the questionnaire below.
Action: Complete section B of the form (below), if you have not utilized resources from any of the above professionals/agencies and attach supporting documentation for an FAA determination.

Section B: Homelessness determination questionnaire

Please complete the questionnaire below **only if** you indicated that you are requesting for a Financial Aid Administrator to determine your circumstances in section A. This form will be considered incomplete if any questions are left unanswered.

1. **In which of the following situations do you currently reside OR where you would reside if not staying in on-campus housing?**

   ☐ Car
   ☐ Campsite/Campground
   ☐ Motel/Hotel
   ☐ Public parks
   ☐ Shelter or other temporary housing program
   ☐ Inadequate housing* such as abandoned buildings, bus stations, or train stations (*Housing that is insufficient to meet the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment.)
   ☐ Temporarily living with others (e.g., friends or relatives) because you have nowhere else to go.
   ☐ Unknown nighttime residence (i.e., you do not know where you will stay from day to day, or week to week.)

2. **If you are living with another household, check all of the reasons that apply.**

   ☐ Economic hardship resulting in inability to secure and maintain fixed, regular, and adequate housing
   ☐ It is not safe for you to live with a parent/guardian, a parent/guardian has forced you to leave home, or other situations of abuse/conflict.
   ☐ Abandoned by parents (i.e., the whereabouts of your parents are unknown for a year or more, no financial support for at least a year AND you are unable to contact them).
   ☐ Other (specify)_____

   If you are living with another household, where would you live if you could not stay at your current location? _____

3. **Are you in the physical custody of your parent or guardian?**
   ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. **When was your last contact with your parent or guardian?**
   Date: _____ (e.g., mm/dd/yyyy)
5. **Are you self-supporting, i.e., are you responsible for your own living expenses, including fixed, regular, and adequate housing?**
   ☐ Yes ☐ No

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6. **Is your housing likely to cease to be fixed (same place), regular (every night), and adequate (safe and sufficient)?**
   ☐ Yes ☐ No
7. **Are you at-risk of homelessness due to eviction and have been unable to find fixed, regular and adequate housing?**
   ☐ Yes ☐ No

Section C: Student Certification

Certification: I certify that the submitted information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If asked by an authorized official, I agree to provide additional proof of the information provided on this form. I understand that purposely providing false or misleading information on this form may result in reduction or repayment of aid, fines and/or imprisonment in this and/or future years.

By typing my name below, I understand and agree that this form of electronic signature has the same legal force and effect as a manual signature.

Student Name (Print): _____ Prin ID P0: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____