

Waiver of School Fees for
McKinney-Vento Children and Youth

. INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL

McKinney-Vento children and youth qualify for a waiver of school fees. This is based on their categorical eligibility for Federal Free Lunch Program. The Illinois State Board of Education defines "school fees" as any required charge collected by a public school or school district from a student (or the parents/guardian) for the student's participation in curricular or extracurricular programs of the school. (ISBE policy on fee waivers: IL Admin. Code Sec. 1.245 and 105 ILCS 5/10-20.13)

"School fees" include, but are not limited to:

1. Charges for text books and instructional materials
2. Charges and deposits for use of school property such as locks, towels, lab equipment
3. Charges for field trips made during or after school hours if the trip is a required or customary part of a class or extracurricular activity
4. Charges for uniforms or equipment related to sports or fine arts programs
5. Charges for supplies related to a particular class such as shop, home economics, lab, art
6. Graduation fees such as caps and gowns
7. School records fees
8. School health services fees
9. Driver's education fees

The cost of regular school supplies are not considered "school fees". However, many schools have resources to help children and youth obtain school supplies.

"School fees" do not include: library fines; charges for class rings, yearbooks, pictures, diploma covers or similar items; charges for optional travel undertaken by a school club or group of students outside of school hours; and admission charges for dances, athletic events or other social events.

Please note: No discrimination or punishment of any kind, including the lowering of grades or exclusion from classes, may be exercised against a student whose guardian /caregivers are unable to purchase required textbooks or instructional materials or to pay required fees [105 ILCS 5/28-19.2(a)].