Unaccompanied Minors Access to Basic Health Care

Instructions for STLS Liaisons & School Social Workers in Chicago Public Schools

Summary

In the spring of 2014 Illinois passed HB4501, which grants minors aged 14 to 18 who are not living with a parent or legal guardian the right to consent to primary health care services without needing to give their provider a consent form signed by a parent. In lieu of the parental consent form, the law authorizes public school homeless (STLS) liaisons or school social workers to identify in writing that the student meets the requirements.

Youth Requirements

Unaccompanied homeless youth and unaccompanied minors who are not homeless may be provided with written certification of unaccompanied status if they meet the following requirements:

- Age 14 to 18.
- The minor does not live with a parent or legal guardian, regardless of duration or the parent’s wishes.
- The minor must not still be dependent on a parent or legal guardian for material support.
- NOT under protective custody, temporary custody, or guardianship of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Who Are Unaccompanied Homeless Youth?

An unaccompanied homeless youth is a youth who meets the definitions of unaccompanied youth and homeless included in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The Act defines children and youth as homeless when they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and as unaccompanied youth when they are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Unaccompanied homeless youth live in a variety of temporary situations, including shelters, the homes of friends or relatives, cars, campgrounds, public parks, abandoned buildings, motels, and bus or train stations (Source: “Helping Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Access College Financial Aid,” National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth). Unaccompanied homeless youth in Chicago Public Schools should be referred to the Students in Temporary Living Situations program.

Steps for STLS Liaisons and School Social Workers to Provide Written Certification

1. Hold a private conference to find out if the student meets the following conditions: 1) 14-18 years old, 2) not living with a parent or legal guardian, 3) not dependent on a parent or legal guardian for material support, 4) not under protective custody, temporary custody, or guardianship of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. If the student states that he or she meets these conditions, proceed to the next step.
2. Print a copy of the “Consent to Health Care Services: Certification of Unaccompanied Minor Status” form (page 2). This form asks for information about the student and contact information for you, the certifier. After you have signed and dated the form, keep a copy on file and provide the student with a copy.
3. Explain to the student that if he or she has medical needs to bring the form when seeing a doctor. By doing so, the doctor will be able to provide medical care without a parental consent form. Also provide them with the Student Informational Flyer about HB4501 (page 3) and Health Care Resources Flyer (page 4).
4. STLS clerks and liaisons should reach out to students who have previously identified themselves as unaccompanied homeless youth. Follow the same steps to confirm if they meet the requirements and provide the certification form. Instructions for pulling a list of unaccompanied homeless youth at your school are on page 4. Going forward, provide the certification form as soon as a student registers for STLS as an unaccompanied homeless youth.
CONSENT TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES: CERTIFICATION OF UNACCOMPANIED MINOR STATUS

Date: ___ / ___ / ___

Minor Seeking Health Care Services:

Full Name: ________________________________________ Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___

Mailing Address: ________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________ State: _____________ Zip: _____________

Certifier of Minor’s Unaccompanied Status:

Full Name: _____________________________ Agency: _____________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________ State: _____________ Zip: _____________

Phone: _____________________________ Email: __________________________________

Certifier’s Relationship to Minor Seeking Care:
□ Public school homeless liaison
□ School social worker

Certifier Attestation:

Pursuant to Illinois Public Act 098-0671, I attest to the best of my knowledge that the minor seeking care identified above is: (1) at least 14 years of age but less than 18 years of age; (2) living separate and apart from a parent or legal guardian, whether with or without the consent of a parent or legal guardian who is unable or unwilling to return to the residence of a parent, and managing his or her own affairs; and (3) is not under the protective custody, temporary custody, or guardianship of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Certifier Signature: _____________________________ Date Signed: ____ / ____ / ____

Instructions: Once completed, please provide the minor seeking care with a copy of this form for them to present to a primary health care provider.
If you are.....

- 14-18 years old
- Do not live with a parent or legal guardian
- Not dependent on a parent or legal guardian for material support
- Not under protective custody, temporary custody, or guardianship of DCFS

You can see a doctor or visit a health clinic without a parental consent form.

All you need to do is ask your school’s STLS Liaison or Social Worker to fill out a certification form and bring the form with you when you visit the doctor for any of the following primary care services:

- Screening
- Counseling
- Immunizations
- Medication
- Treatment of illness and conditions customarily provided by licensed health care professionals in an out-patient setting

"Primary care services" does NOT include invasive care, beyond standard injections, laceration care, or non-surgical fracture care.

Your school’s STLS Liaison or Social Worker can also help you find a health center to go to. If you don’t have health insurance, call 773-553-KIDS for help with applying for a medical card.

Other Phone Numbers:
CPS Students in Temporary Living Situations: 773-553-2242
CPS Office of Student Health and Wellness: 773-553-3560
CPS Children and Family Benefits Unit: 773-553-KIDS
City of Chicago Services: 3-1-1
Call 3-1-1 or visit the following website to search for a health center:

http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/Search_HCC.aspx

For help obtaining a medical card, contact the CPS Children and Family Benefits Unit at:
773-553-KIDS

The schools listed below have their own health centers.

School Based Health Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Health Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beethoven Elementary #*</td>
<td>Friend Family Health Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hibbard Elementary</td>
<td>Heartland International Health Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orr HS *</td>
<td>Rush University Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simpson Academy *##</td>
<td>Rush University Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juarez High School #*</td>
<td>Alivio Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver Military Academy</td>
<td>TCA Health, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Learning Academy</td>
<td>Univ. of Illinois at Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives Charter School #*</td>
<td>Access Community Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spuy Community School #*</td>
<td>Alivio Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School of Leadership at South Shore Jackson Park Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clemente H.S.</td>
<td>Erie Family Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeview H.S.</td>
<td>Erie Family Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips Academy</td>
<td>Mercy Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sullivan H.S. *</td>
<td>Advocate Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Shore Intl College Prep</td>
<td>Jackson Park Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crane Tech Prep #*</td>
<td>Rush University Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Village/Lawndale High School</td>
<td>Alivio Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reavis Elementary *#</td>
<td>North Shore Health Services Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson School of Excellence #*</td>
<td>Erie Family Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact the school with the SBHC or call 773.553.3560 to learn more
For STLS Liaisons: How to Pull a List of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth from IMPACT

1. Sign into IMPACT SIM. Go to Actions -> Switch Role. Select “Student Services Liaison” or “Status Coordinator."
2. Click on “Advanced Search” which is next to the space for student name or ID. Do not enter a student name or ID.
3. Click on the “Detail” tab.
4. Click on “Select a Field.” For “Category” select “Generic.” Underneath, scroll to select “Homeless Education.Unaccompanied Youth?”
5. Click on “Enter a Value” and select “Yes.”
6. Click “Search.”