



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

**Rule 6A-10.087, Florida Administrative Code,  
Postsecondary Education Benefits and Services for  
Students Who Have Been or are in Foster Care or are  
Experiencing Homelessness**

State Board of Education

March 22, 2023

## Purpose

- So that eligible students will receive tuition and fee benefits sooner and college personnel can serve them more efficiently, this rule:
  - Provides a streamlined process and guidance to assist students, parents/guardians, institutions, and other agencies in understanding available educational benefits under sections 1009.25 and 409.1452, Florida Statutes (F.S.), for students experiencing homelessness and students in, or formerly in, foster care.
  - Addresses comprehensive support structures from the law to better serve these student populations.
- Students and college administrators will benefit from a clearer and more consistent process statewide.

# Background

- In 2022, House Bill (HB) 1577 modified s. 1009.25, F.S., to specify that students who meet the federal definition of homeless children and youths under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act are exempt from the payment of tuition and fees, including lab fees.
- Additionally, Senate Bill (SB) 7034 amended s. 1009.25, F.S., to expand the existing Department of Children and Families (DCF) tuition and fee exemption to additional students.
- Relatedly, HB 7065 modified s. 409.1452, F.S., and established requirements regarding tuition and fee exemptions and services for youth and students in the child welfare system.
- The Division of Florida Colleges met with DOE's McKinney-Vento Program staff and college personnel and received student feedback through a DCF survey before preparing the rule.

## Key Components

- Provides in a single rule a streamlined, consistent process for all institutions by:
  - Outlining all options for eligibility determination and verification for former foster care students and students experiencing homelessness, including providing key definitions.
  - Provides a form to standardize the verification process for children and youth under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as well as adults who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
  - Identifying the individuals who are authorized to certify that students meet the eligibility for the homelessness exemption.



[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)

<https://web02.fldoe.org/rules>

