

**McKinney-Vento Updates – February 2025**In a recent Colorado Department of Education Update from Commissioner Susana Cordova, Commissioner Cordova shared the following quote:

*The chief task in life is simply this: to identify and separate matters so that I can say clearly to myself which are externals not under my control, and which have to do with the choices I actually control. Where do I look…? Not to uncontrollable externals, but within myself to the choices that are my own…*

Thank you to the district and school McKinney-Vento teams across the state that are continuing to identify what they control and prepare every student to be successful in college, careers, and life.

**THIS TUESDAY: Highly Mobile Student Peer-to-Peer Conversation**The February 11, 2025, Highly Mobile Student Peer-to-Peer Conversation will host **Schoolhouse Connection** toprovide updates and engage in Q&A with local McKinney-Vento District Liaisons. Please use [following link to join](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-Cpqz4jE9SAD-WnwoQ6xzL-67aVyIr_) from 11:30am -12:30pm.

**Upcoming Request for Applications**The Education of Homeless Children and Youth Grant and the Educational Stability Grant Request for Applications are scheduled to be released in **March 2025** to align with the Colorado Department of Education's newly released strategic plan.

CDE's Office of Student Support will be working to revise existing drafts of the RFAs to ensure alignment with the expected office, program and student outcomes articulated in the strategic plan.  Thank you for your patience.  Reach out to Paula Gumina, Highly Mobile Student Programs Manager, gumina\_p@cde.state.co.us with any questions.

**Optional EmpowerEd Focus Group with McKinney-Vento District Liaisons**EmpowerEd is a state-funded program administered by the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) to provide higher education funding and support to individuals who were identified as being McKinney-Vento eligible by a designated school personnel while enrolled in a Colorado high school.

CDHE is interested in connecting with McKinney-Vento District Liaisons to better understand identification processes at the district level. This focus group opportunity is optional for any McKinney-Vento District Liaison who is interested in participating. In preparation for the focus group, CDHE has put together the following [survey](https://zfrmz.com/wzaSVFP7vDMScTSs3NUr) to collect promising practices in identification. You are not required to complete the survey to attend. Please see complete details and a link to register below:

[Register Here](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/8MHRerxAQ7m51gZpnaY2Zg)
Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 2:00 – 3:00pm
Optional Survey Link: [https://zfrmz.com/wzaSVFP7vDMScTSs3NUr](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fzfrmz.com%2FwzaSVFP7vDMScTSs3NUr&data=05%7C02%7CGumina_p%40cde.state.co.us%7Cf924960c4dbd4f474d0c08dd3fd96a36%7Ca751cfc81f9a4edb83709f1c6d4bea5a%7C0%7C0%7C638736925536508911%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nFUI4PxkydF3Z9rA%2BWsm6IFELhTfhyLXF4RMqO8jPuw%3D&reserved=0)
 **Cafecito: Early Learning for Highly Mobile Students**Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the first Cafecito on February 6th. It was exciting to see the shared interest from professionals across Colorado in building a greater network and community on the topics related to highly mobile students and early learning opportunities. **The next Cafecito webinar will take place on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 from 9:00 am – 10:30am.** We understand there may be some conflicts with Spring Break schedules. Please look for materials shared during the Cafecito on the shared [Google Folder.](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1a1VB_XhYDv7487vcmQjhRKTUnu4PZLQF?usp=drive_link)  Please [register for the March 18th Cafecito](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/0XdjmwDfQs63YEvF2TRDmw) if you are interested in attending.