

- Homeless definition under section 387 of the Runaway & Homeless Youth Act:
- (3) HOMELESS YOUTH.—The term ‘homeless’, used with respect to a youth, means an individual—
- (A) who is—
- (i) less than 21 years of age, or, in the case of a youth seeking shelter in a center under part A, less than 18 years of age or is less than a higher maximum age if the State where the center is located has an applicable State or local law (including a regulation) that permits such higher maximum age in compliance with licensure requirements for child- and youth-serving facilities; and
- (ii) for the purposes of part B, not less than 16 years of age and either
- (I) less than 22 years of age; or
- (II) not less than 22 years of age, as the expiration of the maximum period of stay permitted under section 322(a)(2) if such individual commences such stay before reaching 22 years of age;
- (B) for whom it is not possible to live in a safe environment with a relative; and
- (C) who has no other safe alternative living arrangement.

This is not to be confused with the definition of Runaway:

(4) RUNAWAY YOUTH—The term ‘runaway’, used with respect to a youth, means an individual who is less than 18 years of age and who absents himself or herself from home or a place of legal residence without the permission of a parent or legal guardian.

- Section 637 of the Head Start Act (the site was last updated in 2008, so I believe this is accurate since the act was last revised in 2007)

The term ‘homeless children’ has the meaning given the term ‘homeless children and youths’ in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)).

- Section 14043 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994

(12) HOMELESS- The term ‘homeless’ has the meaning provided in section 41403(6).’;
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/domestic_violence/resources/resources_for_attorneys/legislation/vawa.html

Definition from the most recent revision in section 41403 Definitions:

- 6) the terms ‘homeless’, ‘homeless individual’, and ‘homeless person’—
- (A) mean an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
- (B) includes—
- (i) an individual who—
- (I) is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- (II) is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- (III) is living in an emergency or transitional shelter;
- (IV) is abandoned in a hospital; or
- (V) is awaiting foster care placement;
- (ii) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or
- (iii) migratory children (as defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; 20 U.S.C. 6399) who qualify as homeless under this section because the children are living in circumstances described in this paragraph;
- (7) the term ‘homeless service provider’ means a nonprofit, nongovernmental homeless service provider, such as a homeless shelter, a homeless service or advocacy program, a tribal organization serving homeless individuals, or coalition or other nonprofit, nongovernmental organization carrying out a community-based homeless or housing program that has a documented history of effective work concerning homelessness;

- Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act A) Homeless individual.

The term "homeless individual" means an individual who lacks housing (without regard to whether the individual is a member of a family), including an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private facility that provides temporary living accommodations and an individual who is a resident in transitional housing.

- Section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008

(m) "Homeless individual" means—

(1) an individual who lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or

(2) an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is—

(A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including a welfare hotel or congregate shelter) designed to provide temporary living accommodations;

(B) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;

(C) a temporary accommodation for not more than 90 days in the residence of another individual; or

(D) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

- Section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966

"Homeless individual" means—

(A) an individual who lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or

(B) an individual whose primary nighttime residence is—

(i) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including a welfare hotel or congregate shelter) designed to provide temporary living accommodations;

(ii) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;

(iii) a temporary accommodation of not more than 365 days^{17–12} in the residence of another individual; or

(iv) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

- Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

(2) The term homeless children and youths' —

(A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103(a)(1)); and

(B) includes —

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103(a)(2)(C));

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).