**VERIFICATION OF STATUS AS AN UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS CHILD OR YOUTH**

**AND AUTHORIZATION FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

*For students under the age of majority*

**Unaccompanied homeless child or youth seeking health care services:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Date of Birth |  |
| Contact Information |  |
| Service Provider |  |

**Individual certifying the status of the child or youth and authorizing access to health care services:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Title |  |
| District and School |  |
| Address |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email |  |

Pursuant to **RCW 28A.320.147,** as amended by 3SHB 1682 (2016), I attest to the best of my knowledge that the minor identified above seeking care: (1) meets the definition of a homeless child or youth under the federal McKinney-Vento program; and (2) is not under the supervision of a parent, custodian, or legal guardian.

Additionally, this form provides written notification that the individual and his/her employing school/district is not liable for any care or payment for any care rendered pursuant to this section.

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**Signature Date**

**RCW** [**7.70.065**](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=7.70.065)

(1) A school nurse, school counselor, or homeless student liaison is authorized to provide informed consent for health care, including mental health care, for a patient under the age of majority when:

(a) Consent is necessary for nonemergency outpatient primary care services, including physical examinations, vision examinations and eyeglasses, dental examinations, hearing examinations, and hearing aids, immunizations, treatments for illnesses and conditions, and routine follow-up care customarily provided by a health care provider in an outpatient setting, excluding elective surgeries;

(b) The minor patient meets the definition of a **"homeless child or youth[[1]](#endnote-1)"** under the federal McKinney-Vento homeless education assistance improvements act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, January 8, 2002, (115 Stat. 2005); and

(c) The minor patient is not under the supervision or control of a parent, custodian, or legal guardian, and is not in the care and custody of the Department of Social and Health Services.

(2) A person consenting to care under this section and the person's employing school or school district are not subject to administrative sanctions or civil damages resulting from the consent or non-consent for care, any care, or payment for any care, rendered pursuant to this section

(3) Upon request by a health care facility or a health care provider, a person authorized to consent to care must provide to the person rendering care a declaration signed and dated under penalty of perjury pursuant to RCW [9A.72.085](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=9A.72.085) stating that the person is a school nurse, school counselor, or homeless student liaison and that the minor patient meets the requirements of this section. The declaration must also include written notice of the exemption from liability under this section.

1. The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The act provides examples of children who would fall under this definition:

   Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason

   Children and youth living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations

   Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters

   Children and youth abandoned in hospitals

   Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc.)

   Children and youth living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations

   Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations [↑](#endnote-ref-1)