



# School Year 2025-2026 Parental Right to Know Guide



### **Notice of Non-Discrimination and Non-Retaliation**

Parents have the right to know that District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is committed to ensuring that all employees comply with federal and District of Columbia [non-discrimination](#) laws. For information regarding discrimination, harassment, or retaliation please contact [dcps.care@K12.dc.gov](mailto:dcps.care@K12.dc.gov) or [OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov). For information on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) parents may contact the DCPS CARE team at (202) 442-5405 or the US Department of Education at [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).

### **Teachers and Paraprofessionals**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires all teachers and paraprofessionals obtain a license or certification from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education. The ESSA allows parents to [request information](#) about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, DCPS must provide this information to parents in a timely manner. For additional information, please email [PRTK@k12.dc.gov](mailto:PRTK@k12.dc.gov).

### **Student Achievement (DC CAPE Data)**

Parents have the right to know the District of Columbia Comprehensive Assessments of Progress in Education (DC CAPE) results, which can be obtained from the District of Columbia Public Schools [website](#).

### **Student Records**

DCPS must notify parents and adult students of their rights under [FERPA](#). The FERPA information is available annually in the student enrollment packet.

### **Unsafe School Choice Option**

Parents have the right to be notified if their child is the victim of a violent crime at school. In addition, parents have the right to request a transfer for your child if he or she is the victim of a violent crime at school. For more information, please review the student placement guidance [here](#), or contact the District of Columbia Public Schools Student Placement Office at (202) 939-2004. Parents also have the right to know that the Student Placement Office follows District of Columbia Municipal (DCMR) Regulations, which can be found [here](#).

### **Multilingual Learners (MLs).**

Parents have the right to know their child's English Language Proficiency Level (ELP-WIDA Levels), communication of annual measurable objectives, and information on how they can be involved in their student's education. For more information, contact the Office of Teaching and Learning, Language Acquisition Division at (202) 671-0750.

### **Notice of Educational Rights for Families and Youth in Temporary Housing**

The Office of School Improvements & Supports – Families and Youth in Transition Program mission is to ensure free, appropriate, public educational opportunities for children and youth experiencing homelessness or who are residing in temporary housing. The goal is to ensure students experiencing homelessness have equal access to the same educational opportunities and services as their permanently housed peers.

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, students experiencing homelessness have the following enrollment rights:

1. The right to remain in the school of origin. The school of origin is defined as “the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled, including a preschool”. The student has the right to attend the school of origin for the duration of homelessness and until the end of the academic year in which the student becomes permanently housed.
2. The right to immediately enroll in the boundary school. A parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth can request to enroll in the public school closest to their temporary residence/placement. The right to immediate enrollment is NOT extended to application schools.

Every school is mandated by law to have a designated School-Based Homeless Liaison (SBHL) who supports students experiencing homelessness.

For more information, please contact the DCPS Families and Youth in Transition Program at (202) 576-9502.

### **Title I**

Parents have the right to be informed about Schoolwide Title I programs. Please find the complete list of all Title I Schools [here](#). For more information, contact the Monitoring and Program Support team at (202) 442-6025.

### **Parent and Family Engagement**

Parents have the right to help develop, with their school community, a School-Parent Compact and a School-level Parent and Family Engagement Policy for improved student academic achievement. For more information, please visit the DCPS [Title 1 Family Engagement](#) site, or contact [ceo.info@k12.dc.gov](mailto:ceo.info@k12.dc.gov).

### **Complaint Resolution**

Parents have the right to have complaints resolved within 45 business days. For more information, contact the [Office of Integrity](#) (202) 939-4913. Parents may also contact the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to file an official complaint. The complaint procedures for OSSE can be found [here](#) or by contacting (202) 741-6404.