Educational Support for Students in Temporary Living Situations

Who is eligible for services from Educational Support for Students in Temporary Living Situations?
Students in many different situations are eligible for services through STLS. If a student lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night time residence then he or she is eligible for STLS services.
This includes:
· sharing housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason
· living in a shelter or transitional housing program
· living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternatives
· living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, or similar places
· awaiting foster care placement
· refugee or migratory students in any of the above situations
· youth not in the custody of a parent or a guardian (unaccompanied youth), of any age

Who should I talk to if I think my child is eligible for STLS?
Each Chicago Public School, including Charter schools, has an STLS Liaison and Clerk. If you or someone you know may be eligible for STLS services, be sure to ask to speak with your school’s STLS Liaison or Clerk. In order to receive STLS services, the school’s STLS Liaison or Clerk must know about your situation. You can expect your personal information to remain private.

Where will my child go to school?
You or an STLS student in your care has a right to choose to enroll at:
· the school he/she attended upon becoming homeless (school of origin)
· the last school at which he/she was enrolled (school of origin)
· the attendance area school for the area in which the STLS student resides

When will my child go to school?
· STLS students have a right to immediate enrollment and full participation in school activities, even without proof of address, proof of immunization, transcripts, or any other documents.
· STLS students have the right to continue attending the school of origin for as long as they lack permanent housing or, if they become permanently housed, until the end of the academic year in which housing is acquired.

How will my child get to school?
· Transportation assistance will be provided to eligible students to attend the school of origin
· Transportation assistance may include CTA fare cards or a school bus

What if the school charges fees or I have overdue fees?
· Fees for participation in most school activities and the use of school property will be waived automatically
· This includes fees for textbooks, instructional fees, gym uniforms, lockers, graduation fees, school records, and many other things

Will my child stand out because he/she doesn’t have things like a uniform or a backpack?
· STLS students will receive items necessary for their participation in school such as uniforms, school supplies, and other items.

Will my child receive meals at school?
Yes, STLS students are automatically eligible for free school meals.

For more information or assistance, call Chicago Public Schools Students in Temporary Living Situations (773) 553-2242.