

**McKinney-Vento Updates – January 2025  
Resources Spotlight  
Highly Mobile Youth and Out-of-School Time**   
National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE published the following issue highlighting the importance of intentional engagement of special populations in out-of-school time programs, including highly mobile youth. [Voices from the Field: Special Population Brief](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/new-occ/resource/files/NCASE%20Special%20Populations%20Brief%20-v4_ADA.pdf)  
 **EmpowerEd Application for 2025**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 experienced homelessness and were identified as being McKinney-Vento eligible by a designated school personnel while enrolled in a Colorado high school. **The deadline to apply and be included on the roster for the Spring 2025 semester is February 14, 2025.** The **2025-2026 EmpowerEd application will open on March 1, 2025**. The link to the application will be available on [the](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnlox-zgpvh.maillist-manage.net%2Fclick%2F131ed86e62f9d7de%2F131ed86e62f99a5f&data=05%7C02%7Cgumina_p%40cde.state.co.us%7Cfcf167503f2b40c6cb7008dd1ef5a170%7Ca751cfc81f9a4edb83709f1c6d4bea5a%7C0%7C0%7C638700762541540945%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Dgpvi5NDuzCdZ2ASL15YDtCi7L9EiyDhFUJE3lZzCus%3D&reserved=0) [EmpowerEd webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnlox-zgpvh.maillist-manage.net%2Fclick%2F131ed86e62f9d7de%2F131ed86e62f99a61&data=05%7C02%7Cgumina_p%40cde.state.co.us%7Cfcf167503f2b40c6cb7008dd1ef5a170%7Ca751cfc81f9a4edb83709f1c6d4bea5a%7C0%7C0%7C638700762541558441%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W%2FRbDeqVNx27g8AIfdlk4j6KMuyo%2FrKVRH22CW%2FFj4A%3D&reserved=0)

**Upcoming Trainings  
Implicit Bias Training**The **January 14, 2025**, Highly Mobile Student Peer-to-Peer Conversation will be an extended for this topic. The session aims to equip participants with a deeper understanding of implicit bias and provide actionable strategies for addressing its impact. [Register here.](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-Cpqz4jE9SAD-WnwoQ6xzL-67aVyIr_)

**Highly Mobile Students and Early Childhood Cafecito**Join Head Start, Migrant Education and McKinney-Vento partners on **Thursday, February 6, 2025, from 3:30 – 5pm** for a Cafecito. Cafecito comes from the Latin-American culture to bring together different cultures and strengthen networks. In that spirit, we are inviting local partners to connect, learn and strengthen networks between Head Start and Highly Mobile Student Programs. [Please register for this virtual event by Tuesday, February 4](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvdOitpjwuE9wQzKZ6gyM6YvjW_zhhLx2R)thand feel free to share the opportunity with your networks. Additional details regarding what to expect will be sent out as we approach the event.

**The Highly Mobile Student Summit**Hosted by Colorado State University’s Fostering Success Program in partnership with the Highly Mobile Student Programs Team at CDE, The Highly Mobile Student Summit will be held on **Friday, March 7th at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.** There will also be an optional evening reception and open house at CSU’s Fostering Success Program on Thursday, March 6th. Community, K-12 and higher education staff and college student leaders supporting youth and young adults from foster care, homeless and migrant backgrounds will have the opportunity to network and hear from speakers at this free, all-day summit.

Please share this opportunity with your networks who work with highly mobile student populations.  It will be great day of learning from young adults with lived experience, networking, and broadening perspectives on how to best work alongside students experiencing high mobility.  [Click here to register](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconferencereg.colostate.edu%2FRegistration%2FWelcome.aspx%3Fe%3D9ED981735EE22E73984349BFD4791AD4&data=05%7C02%7CGumina_p%40cde.state.co.us%7C2aba3efeb04b4c28bf9408dd1ee125e1%7Ca751cfc81f9a4edb83709f1c6d4bea5a%7C0%7C0%7C638700674565310487%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ToPtw3zOYgKkwRwHubrkq8gP%2B3xKIDaIzxErc646bcw%3D&reserved=0)  and learn more!

**FAFSA/CASFA Lunch & Learn series**.    
These [free webinars](https://cdhe.colorado.gov/fafsa/casfa/lunch-learn-series) offered by the Colorado Department of Higher Education provide professionals involved in FAFSA/CASFA processes the opportunity to obtain relevant financial aid information to support students. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, exchange ideas, and collaborate.  Please share with your school counselor partners and discuss the importance of supporting McKinney eligible students in this process.

[**Register here**](https://forms.zohopublic.com/twylaesquibel/form/BetterFAFSALunchLearnSeries/formperma/Bst1nbBRwqBR6EdPlTSltGbT8-ODl8i_lNUPyOMS9xE) **for any or all of the following sessions. All Lunch & Learns occur from 12pm-1pm:**   
January 15 - FAFSA/CASFA Updates and [Postsecondary Options Programs](https://cdhe.colorado.gov/foster-care-financial-aid-programs)  
February 19 - FAFSA/CASFA Updates  
March 12 - FAFSA/CASFA Updates

**Educator Financial Aid Training**In an effort to increase statewide FAFSA and CASFA completion rates, [HB22-1366 Improving Students' Postsecondary Options](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnlox-zgpvh.maillist-manage.net%2Fclick%2F131ed86e62f9d7de%2F131ed86e62f99a67&data=05%7C02%7Cgumina_p%40cde.state.co.us%7Cfcf167503f2b40c6cb7008dd1ef5a170%7Ca751cfc81f9a4edb83709f1c6d4bea5a%7C0%7C0%7C638700762541627206%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=MdDeC5t2w%2FAoDGvgHuM4aQn3%2Fuk0M7K%2FTgjsiq357WA%3D&reserved=0) prioritizes financial aid training to educators, career and technical education instructors, counselors and professionals.  All participants will receive six continuing education credits.

[**Register Here to attend**](https://forms.zohopublic.com/twylaesquibel/form/EducatorFinancialAidTrainingAims/formperma/8sKX0u8yhnLN5pIe3t9L20WLGx2429NNgYxMOiosHVs)**:**

* Northern Region - Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Aims Community College, Greeley
* Southern Region - Friday, Feb. 28, 2025 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Adams State University, Alamosa