

# Supporting Displaced Students and Families During and After Emergency Events

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- Use the **Q&A Pod** to send a message to the moderator. Your questions and comments will be addressed at the end of the Webinar. Use the **Files Pod** to download handouts.
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- You are invited to **participate in a 30-minute Twitter Chat** after the Webinar via the Community of Practice.
- Use **#SchoolSafetyDisplacedStudents to share information** discussed during today's Webinar **on social media**. On Twitter? Tag **@remstacenter** when sharing!



# Supporting Displaced Students and Families During and After Emergency Events



U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Safe and Healthy Students

[info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org) | <https://rems.ed.gov/> | [@remstacenter](https://twitter.com/remstacenter)

# Housekeeping

- To download a copy of pertinent handouts, use the **Web links** on your screen. Select the name of the link you want to access.
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# Questions & Answers

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Questions  
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Webinar?

Please submit to  
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# Presenters



U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Safe and Supportive Schools



Readiness and Emergency Management for  
Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center



National Center for Homeless Education

# Agenda

Understanding Supports for Displaced Families and Students

Overview of Federal Supports for Displaced Students

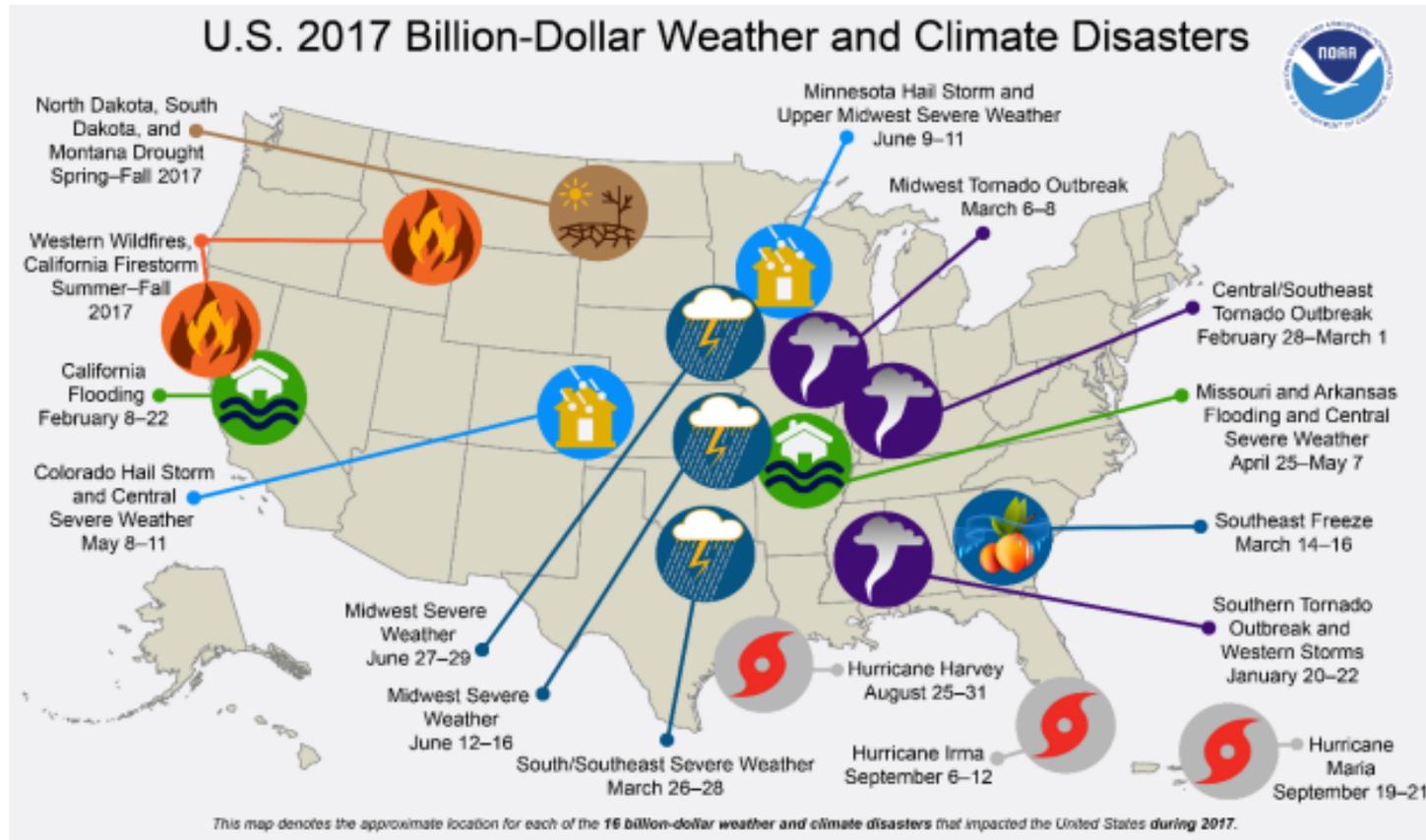
Integrating Support Systems and Efforts into School  
Emergency Operations Plans

Q&A Session



# Understanding Supports for Displaced Families and Students

# Long-term Recovery from Record-Breaking Disasters in 2017



Source: NOAA; <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/beyond-data/2017-us-billion-dollar-weather-and-climate-disasters-historic-year>

# The Need for Education Agencies to Support Displaced Students Post-Disaster

After a disaster, education agencies may:

no longer be able to provide basic needs to community members who are experiencing homelessness, such as free meals

receive an influx of students from neighboring and non-local school districts and systems

see an increase in the need for support from local students and families who were already experiencing homelessness

see an increase in new local families experiencing homelessness who require support with basic needs, including continuity of education

# Snapshot: Hurricane Harvey

**After the disaster, NOAA estimated that 30,000 people were displaced.**

**In November 2017, more than 70,000 people — including thousands of children — were still living in hotels through FEMA's Transitional Shelter Assistance program.**

**In the Conroe Independent School District in Houston, students classified as homeless nearly doubled in 2017: 475 in 2016-17 and 945 in 2017-18.**

Image Source: Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Johanna Strickland (Defense.gov)

# Enrollment of Students from Puerto Rico After Hurricane María

**Florida: 10,324**

**Pennsylvania: 2,407**

**Massachusetts: 2,298**

**New York: 2,052**

**Connecticut: 1,188**

**New Jersey: 886**

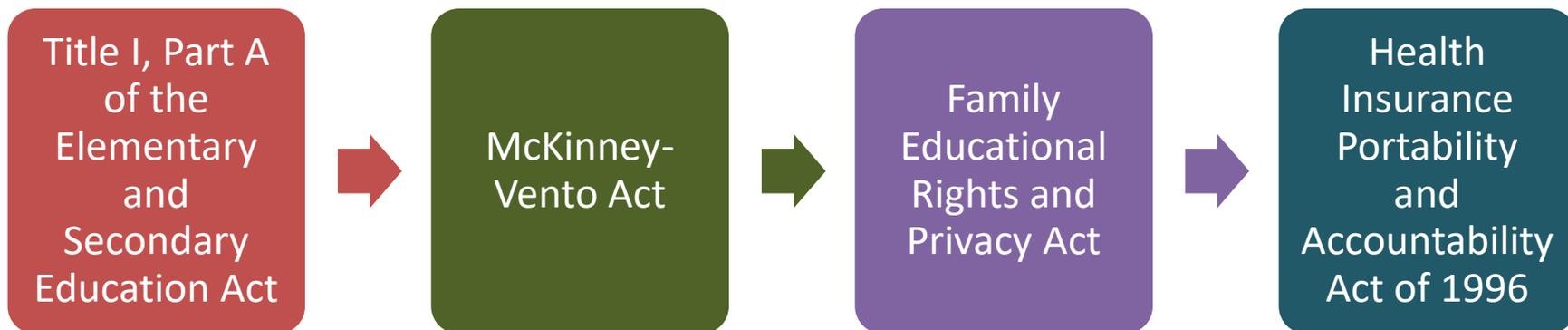


Hurricane María survivor sleeps in the drama class classroom at the Lino Padrón high school, that serves as a shelter in the municipality of Vega Baja.

(Yuisa Rios/FEMA)



# Federal Legislation Designed to Protect Displaced/Homeless Students



Visit <https://nche.ed.gov/legislation/> to view additional legislation designed to protect displaced and homeless students and their families.

# State Snapshot: Texas



There are **more than 113,000 000 homeless students in the state of Texas** and about 16,800 of those kids were unaccompanied by a legal guardian.  
(Source: National Center for Education Statistics)

## Local Snapshot: Bryan Adams High School, Dallas



With Thousands Of Homeless Students, This District Put Help Right In Its Schools, NPR

Read about how **one school in Dallas converted a classroom into a center “that offers a lot that a homeless student might need:** coffee, packaged foods, deodorant, a new backpack, even counseling.”

Source: NPR.org

# Key Planning Considerations

Avoid use of the term “homeless.”

Develop family engagement initiatives.

Enhance language services.

# Key Planning Considerations (continued)

Increase behavioral health support.

Develop relationships with key partners in advance.

Understand local, state, and federal laws.

# Agenda

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Integrating Support Systems and Efforts into School Emergency Operations Plans

Q&A Session



# Overview of Federal Supports for Displaced Students

# About NCHE

NCHE operates the U.S. Department of Education's technical assistance center for the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Center

- Website: <http://nche.ed.gov>
- Helpline: 800-308-2145 or [homeless@serve.org](mailto:homeless@serve.org)
- Resources: <https://nche.ed.gov/resources/> (products tab)
- Webinars: <https://nche.ed.gov/group-training/>
- Listserv: <https://nche.ed.gov/resources/> (listserv tab)



# McKinney-Vento 101

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law in December 2015, and reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act (Title IX, Part A).

McKinney-Vento establishes the definition of *homeless* used by U.S. public schools, and establishes the educational rights of students experiencing homelessness.

Visit <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/> for more information

Every state has a State Coordinator for Homeless Education; every district has a local homeless education liaison. Visit <https://nche.ed.gov/data/>

# Who is Homeless?

Children or youth who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including:

Sharing the housing of others *due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason*

Living in motels, hotels, or campgrounds *due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations*

Living in emergency or transitional shelters

Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, public spaces, or substandard housing

Unaccompanied youth (not under the care of a parent or guardian) living in the circumstances outlined on this slide

Eligibility is a case-by-case determination.

# MV Rights and Services

Eligible students have the right to



- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment
- Enroll in the local school or continue attending the school of origin, according to the student's best interest
- Receive school of origin transportation, if requested
- Receive services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the student's needs
- Receive free school meals (no household app needed)
- Receive Title I and special education supports, as needed

# NCHE Support to Affected Areas

Reach out to affected State Coordinators and local liaisons to offer assistance

Work with State Coordinator or local homeless education liaison to talk through the implementation of MV following a disaster

Help SEAs and/or LEAs develop processes and communications

Share best practices from other areas

Connect impacted State Coordinators and local homeless education liaisons via phone calls, webinars, etc.

Convene ad hoc groups to develop products that include lessons learned



# State Plan Recommendations

Include State Coordinators on state-level emergency/disaster management planning bodies

Consider schools as critical infrastructure and top priority for power restoration, fuel, and other crucial supports

Have mechanisms in place to gather and share appropriate data so that students are coded and counted accurately

# Local Plan Recommendations

Foster cross-sector relationships (e.g. school district, public safety, etc.) before a disaster

Ensure that school leadership understands MV and is part of the local emergency team

Create MOUs for sharing data, as needed, between school districts and other organizations

Develop protocols for utilizing district staff, volunteers, resources, and donations

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Q&A Session



# Integrating Support Systems and Efforts into School Emergency Operations Plans

# Understanding School and School District Roles



Ensuring  
Enrollment and  
Continuity of  
Education



Serving as a  
Conduit of  
Information +  
Connector  
between Schools  
& Communities

# Getting Support from the Community

Input should be gathered from:

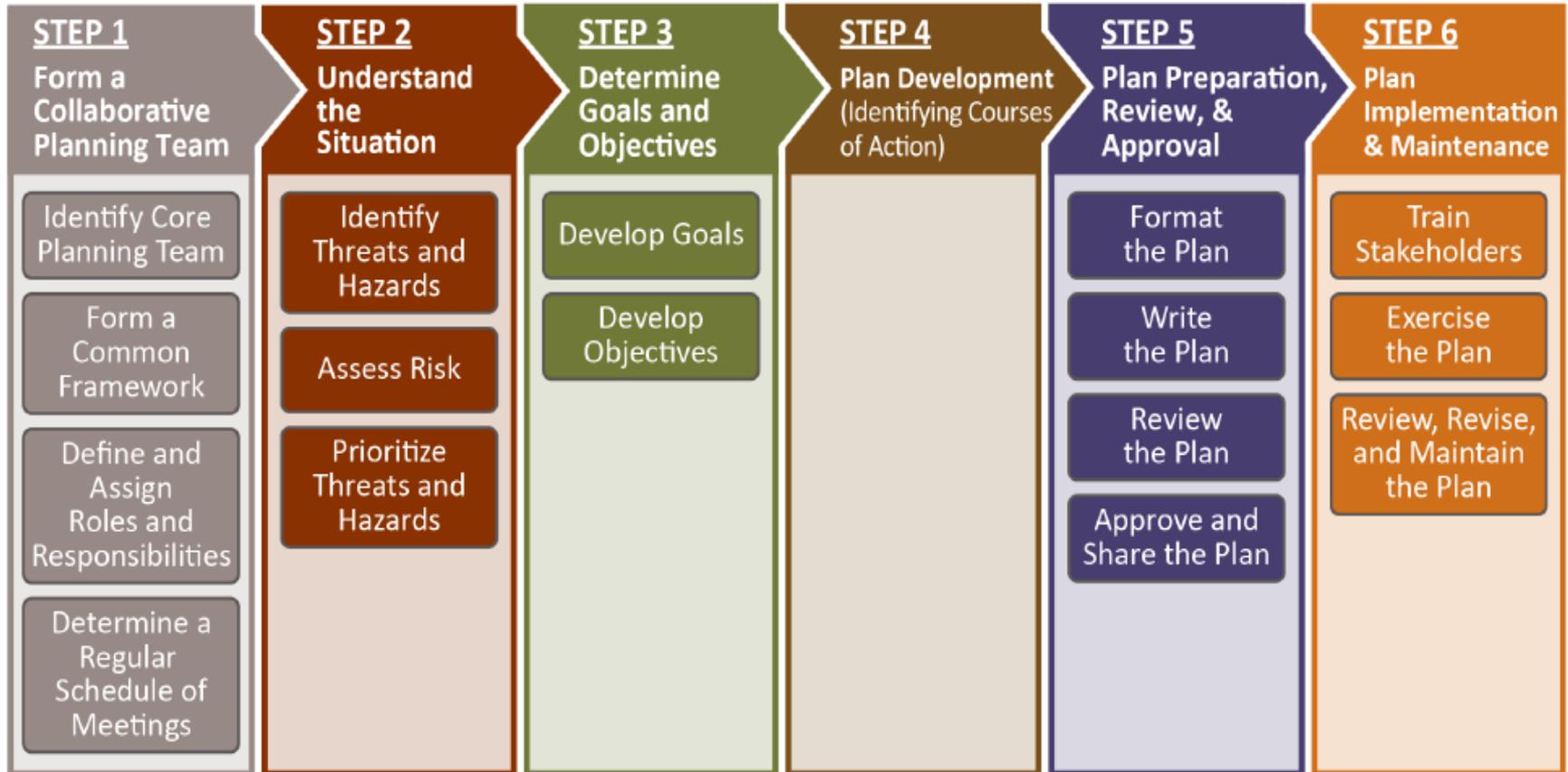
- Families and students
- School administrators, educators, and staff
- First responders
- Community groups
- Before- and after-school programs
- Student health personnel (at school, school district, and state level)
- State and local public health practitioners
- Child welfare agencies
- Representatives from local and state education agencies
- Emergency management agency representative
- Faith-based representatives

# Planning Principles and Mission Areas to Consider

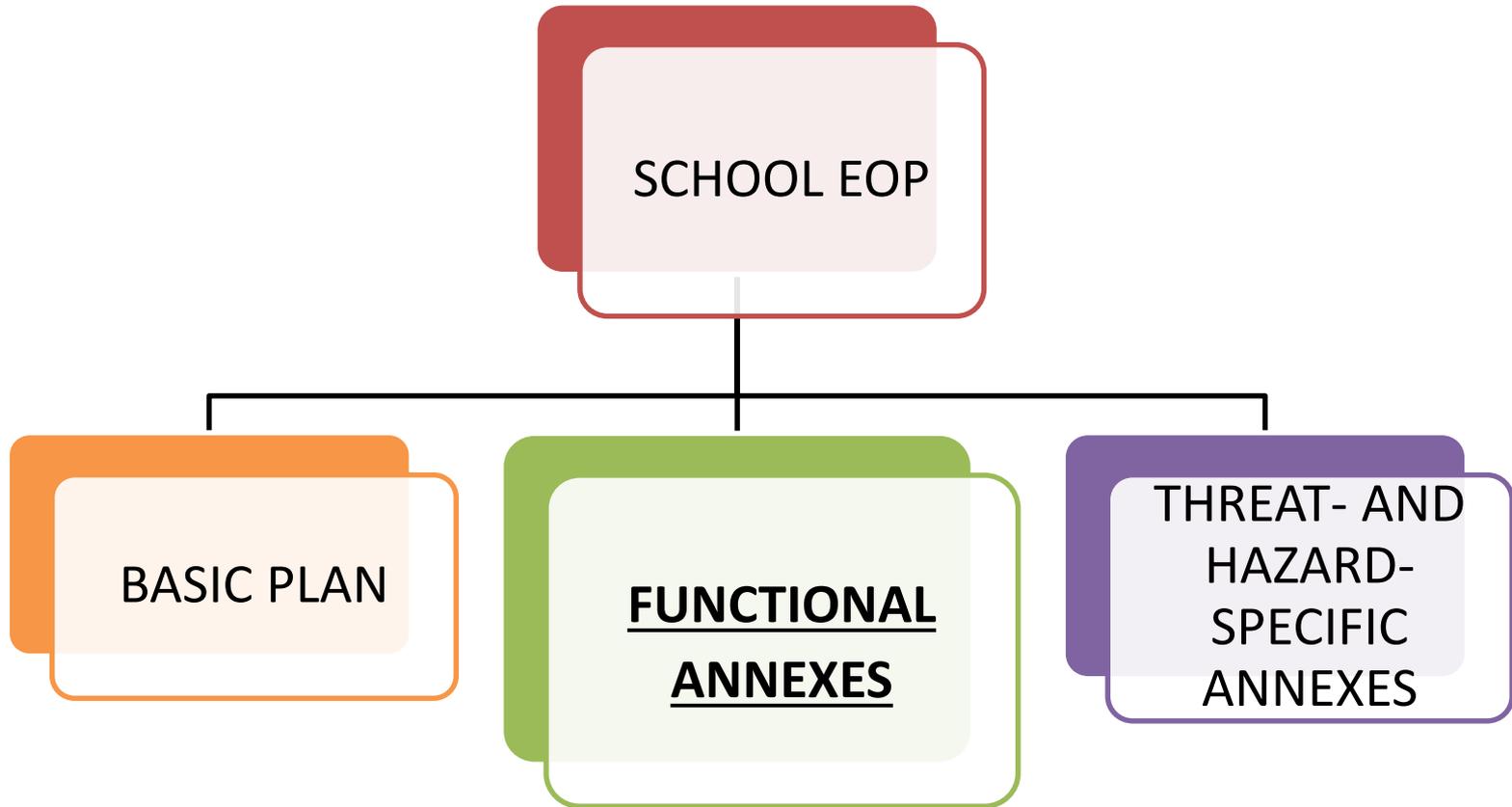
## Address:

- Before, during, and after an event
- Prevention + Protection + Mitigation + Response + Recovery = Preparedness
- All settings and all times

# Using the Six-Step Planning Process



# Integrating Supports into Related Annexes



Learn more about functional annexes via the REMS TA Center Website:  
<https://rems.ed.gov/K12FuncAnnex.aspx>.

# Training and Participating in Exercises

## Training

- External partners
- Internal stakeholders

## Exercises

- Planning
- Participation

# Summary

Understand the importance of language in the context of this topic: **avoid use of the term “homeless” when communicating with students and families** and take steps to understand who qualifies as “homeless” or “displaced” based on key definitions provided by federal, state, and local entities.

Study and **learn federal, state, and local legislation specific to supports for displaced students and families**, how they intersect, education agency requirements under the law.

**Integrate supports into school and school district EOPs using the six-step planning process outlined in the *School Guide*** and the key considerations shared by ED’s REMS TA Center and NCHE.

**Access resources from the NCHE** to reinforce your understanding of requirements under the law and to reinforce efforts to meet the needs of displaced students and families.

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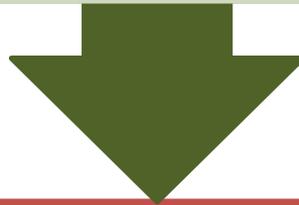
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Q&A Session

# Questions & Answers

## During the Webinar

Please use the Q&A Pod on your computer screen to submit questions.



## After the Webinar

Please join us on the Community of Practice for a 30-minute Web chat during which we will answer additional questions.

# NCHE Resources

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## Disaster Preparation and Response Web page

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*Connecting Schools and Displaced Students* briefs and handbooks

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Other resources, including federal resources, resources to help students cope, and sample forms and materials

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*When Disaster Strikes: What State Coordinators Need to Know and Do* (Section M)

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## Trauma-Informed Care/Trauma-Specific Services Web page

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# Join us for a Web Chat on the Community of Practice NOW!

collaborate, share, and learn from the experiences of others in the field

CoP HOME ABOUT THE CoP **FORUMS** RULES CALENDAR CoP CHAT ROOM MY PROFILE LOG OUT

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HOME ► #SCHOOLSAFETYDISPLACEDSTUDENTS WEB CHAT

Join us for a Web chat on February 27 at 3 PM ET as a follow up to our Supporting Displaced Students and Families During and After Emergency Events Webinar.

## Welcome to the Web Chat! 🗨️



**administrator**  
Administrator  
Posts: 212  
6 seconds ago

You may have more questions related to items discussed in today's Webinar. We hope to answer them in this forum!

To ask a question or comment, click **Add Reply** and type your message into the field that appears. Click **Preview** to see your post before it's added and then **Add Message** to post your question or comment. The REMS TA Center will respond to each question individually as quickly as possible. To reply directly to a question or comment, select **Reply with Quote**. If you would like to receive an external email when a post is added during this Web Chat, click **Notify me when a reply is posted**.

Please note that chat questions and responses may take a few seconds to appear. You do not have to hit refresh.

If the conversation extends beyond the length of one page, chat questions and responses will appear on a second page connected to this thread. Click the numbers that will appear at the bottom of the page to view the entire conversation. Click the highest number to view the latest chats.

Thanks again for joining this Web chat! We're here to answer your questions.

Posted from IP: 76.111.10.71 🌐

👍👎 mark as "accepted answer" link reply with quote report to moderator edit delete

Join us NOW on the Community of Practice to continue the discussion!

- Log on at <https://rems.ed.gov/COP/default.aspx>.
- Select K-12 Public Forums.
- Select **#SCHOOLSAFETYDISPLACEDSTUDENTS WEB CHAT**.



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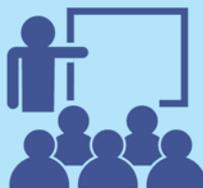
**Enhance Emergency Operations Plans**



**Access Relevant Federal Guidance**



**Use EOP-Enhancing  
Interactive Tools**



**Request an On-Site Training  
in Key EOP-Related Topics**



**Learn Anytime via Virtual Trainings  
on all Topics in Emergency Management**



**PREVENT**



**PROTECT**



**MITIGATE**



**RESPOND**



**RECOVER**