MEMORANDUM NO. 2016-115

TO:       School District Superintendents
          Homeless Education Liaisons
          Building Principals
          School Counselors

FROM:    Brent Bacon, Chief Academic Officer

DATE:    September 26, 2016

SUBJECT: McKinney-Vento Homeless Amendments in ESSA

OCT 1 CHANGES TO MCKINNEY-VENTO

Amendments to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act go into effect October 1, 2016. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) is committed to providing districts with resources to ensure a smooth transition to the new law.

The Homeless Education section of the WDE website has been updated to include a new ESSA Transition page, which contains links to the new law, new federal guidance, and frequently asked questions. The WDE will update this page with additional information, training, and technical assistance opportunities as they become available. Local homeless education liaisons and other interested staff are also encouraged to join the WDE’s Educating Homeless Children and Youth Google+ Community for frequent updates.

Under the new statute, the WDE is required to post contact information for all local homeless education liaisons on its website. Please review the contact information on the WDE’s Homeless Education page, and notify Kenya Haynes at kenya.haynes@wyo.gov if there are any necessary changes. The US Department of Education will be reviewing State Education Agency websites the week of October 3, 2016 to verify this information.

For more information, please contact Kenya Haynes, State Coordinator for Homeless Education, at kenya.haynes@wyo.gov or 307-777-3672.