Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn

Help for Students in Temporary Housing: About AFC's Project LIT

(**L**earners **I**n **T**emporary Housing)

WHO WE ARE

Advocates for Children of New York (AFC)'s mission is to ensure a high-quality education for New York students who face barriers to academic success, focusing on students from low-income backgrounds. We provide free information and legal services to parents with children in NYC schools.

Project LIT (Learners in Temporary Housing) at AFC focuses on students in temporary housing and works to make sure they get the support they need to be successful in school and beyond, and prevent future homelessness.

WHAT WE DO

Advice & representation for families

We provide information, advice, and legal services to families on school-related issues.

Technical Assistance and Consultations

We give information and advice to shelter-based staff on how to support clients with education-related issues.

Attendance Team Meetings

We partner with shelter providers to create and support attendance teams. We help shelter-based staff better use and understand attendance data; help shelter-provider staff and staff from NYC Public Schools better collaborate to support students' improved attendance in school; and provide information and strategies to overcome education barriers faced by students in shelter.

Workshops, Trainings, and Clinics

We provide opportunities for parents and professionals to learn more about students' educational rights, and the services and supports available in NYC public schools.

***All* of our services are free.**

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WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

We provide FREE information and legal services to parents with children in NYC schools. Contact us if you need help with:

- **Enrollment or a school transfer,** 3-K to 12th Grade, including alternative high school programs like Transfer Schools
- **Transportation issues,** including delays with busing or parent OMNY cards
- **Programs for students learning English**
- **Special education** evaluations and services
- **Addressing bullying and harassment** in school
- **Discipline issues** in school, including suspensions
- **Shelter transfer** to be closer to the child's school
- And more!

Students in temporary housing have important rights!

- **All children** have the right to attend public school from age **4** until graduation or until the end of the school year when they turn **21.**
- **Students in temporary housing** can **stay in the same school** even if they move.
- Students in temporary housing can **immediately enroll in a new school** even if they don't have the documents normally needed.
- Students in temporary housing can get **free transportation** to and from school, and their **parents can get free transportation** if they go with them.
- Parents have the right to **participate in their child's education**, including choosing a school for their child, getting a copy of their child's school records, attending parent-teacher conferences, and getting translation and interpretation services in NYC schools.
- If a child is having difficulty in school or is a **student with a disability**, they have the right to receive help at school.

For more information or to get help for a student in temporary housing,
Contact Advocates for Children's Project LIT:
Call or text: (347) 508-2626
Email: ProjectLIT@afcnyc.org
Interested in receiving our quarterly newsletter? Scan the QR below to register:

Have other questions or need more assistance?
Please call AFC's Jill Chaifetz Education Helpline:
(866) 427-6033 • Monday—Thursday • 10am—4pm
www.advocatesforchildren.org