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To request the family toolkit in your language, email office_communications@dpsk12.net.

Immigration Resources for Families

Purpose

All students, regardless of immigration status, have a constitutionally protected right to access free public education. Public K-12 schools must teach all students free of charge, regardless of their immigration status or their parents' status.

This family toolkit is a comprehensive guide designed to assist families in creating personalized action plans in case of deportation or prolonged absence. It provides practical tools and advice on organizing critical documents, managing legal and financial matters, and developing communication strategies. This resource empowers families to navigate challenging circumstances with greater confidence and readiness.

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Know Your Rights

Your Child has the Right to a Free Public Education. All children in the United States have a Constitutional right to equal access to free public education, regardless of immigration status or the immigration status of the student's parents or guardians.

All people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution.

This [Know Your Rights Guide When Interacting with Law Enforcement Guide](#) is available in multiple languages. It includes information on how to read a warrant, an emergency planning checklist, an emergency contact information sheet, a workplace planning checklist, and more.

Rights Cards

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) created Red Cards to help people assert their rights and defend themselves in many situations, such as when ICE agents go to a home. If you encounter law enforcement, these cards may come in handy as they explain your constitutional rights and that you are choosing to exercise those rights. You should always carry one of these cards with you. [Red Cards/ Tarjetas Rojas](#) can be found on the ILRC website. In addition to the languages ILRC offers, Amharic, Somali, and Nepali are available in [this folder](#).

Training

The DPS Office of General Counsel's training aims to inform families about their rights and DPS's immigration policies and to provide resources and support for families facing immigration concerns. Access the [English](#) and [Spanish](#) recording of the training.

Student Data

Federal and state laws protect student education records and personal information. These laws generally require that schools get written consent from parents or guardians before releasing student information unless the release of information is for educational purposes, is already public, or there is a legal exception like a court order or subpoena.

Take Action

Family Safety Plan

Develop and keep a "Family Safety Plan" in a safe place for the care and custody of a student in case parents/guardians become unavailable due to arrest, detention, or some other reason. At a minimum, the plan will include:

- **Updating the student's emergency contact information:** Families can update students' emergency contact information as needed throughout the school year and provide alternative contacts if no parent or guardian is available. Follow [this step-by-step guide](#) (also available in [Spanish](#)) to add, remove, or modify emergency contact updates for your child in Infinite Campus.
- **Making childcare arrangements:** Families should designate a trusted adult to care for their child(ren). They should discuss this plan in detail with the child(ren) and seek counsel from a legal organization on legal guardianship.
- **Organize important documents:** Families and students should know where to find important documentation, such as birth certificates, passports, ID cards, doctors' contact information, medication lists, and lists of allergies.



The Family Protection Plan, available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), is a comprehensive guide designed to assist families in creating personalized action plans in case of deportation or prolonged absence. It provides practical tools and advice on organizing critical documents, managing legal and financial matters, and developing communication strategies. This resource empowers families to navigate challenging circumstances with greater confidence and readiness.

Power of Attorney

A power of attorney is a legal document that grants rights and powers to someone you trust to handle certain matters for you. These matters can include managing finances, handling medical care, caring for minor children, or addressing other specific needs. The information provided here is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Please consult with an attorney for any legal concerns or specific advice.

[Download a power of attorney form.](#)

Please note that a Notary Public must witness your signature. Many front office staff are notaries or know who in your school is a notary. Banks also have notaries available who charge a fee to notarize documents.

Denver Public Schools Resources

As you explore DPS resources, we encourage you to start by asking questions and using the resources available at your school. Here are some additional key resources to support you.

FACE Helpline (720-423-3054)

The Family and Community (FACE) Helpline provides assistance in navigating Denver Public Schools. Our goal is to address families' concerns efficiently and effectively. We recognize the importance of being your child's advocate and have knowledgeable staff to help you address any concerns that may arise during the school year.

Hotline staff speak Spanish and have access to multilingual interpretation services as needed. Call 720-423-3054 or email facehelpline@dpsk12.net.

Community Hubs

[Community Hubs](#) take a holistic approach to student learning, offering programs and services that support families' social, emotional, physical, academic, and basic needs. DPS works with each identified community to develop the services most aligned with their needs. All Hub services are free to DPS families and Denver community members. Services vary by Hub. Contact your hub for more information! Complete a [referral form](#) if you or someone you know could benefit from any of the following services.



Multilingual Education (MLE) Office

Multilingual Education (MLE) provides guidance, resources, training, and support to ensure that all schools can provide equitable, rigorous learning environments for their students. Call the MLE Hotline at 720-423-2040 or email dps_mle.groups@dpsk12.net.

Mental Health Supports for Students & Families

During times of change and uncertainty, it's natural for students and families to experience a range of emotions. DPS is committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of our entire school community through:

- On-campus support from licensed and trained school social workers and school psychologists.
- Comprehensive intervention programs and response protocols.
- Access to community mental health partners and crisis support.

If you have concerns about your child's mental health:

- Listen to your child and acknowledge their feelings.
- Connect with your school's mental health provider.
- Call 911 or take your child to the nearest emergency room for immediate risk.
- Connect with support, such as:
 - **Care Solace:** Care Solace connects students, staff, and their families to care. At no cost to you, Care Solace will quickly and confidentially find available mental health and substance use providers matched to your needs. A multilingual team is available 24/7/365 to help you understand options, call providers on your behalf, and schedule an appointment. Get connected to care today by calling 888-515-0595 or visiting caresolace.com/dps.
 - **I Matter Colorado** connects youth to free counseling sessions. Youth and their parents can visit I Matter Colorado to take a confidential online survey about their mental health and schedule sessions with a licensed behavioral health clinician, primarily online via telehealth.
 - **Denver Health School-Based Centers:** Denver Health's School-based Health Centers (SBHC) form an extensive network of 19 health centers located inside Denver Public School (DPS) campuses that provide medical, mental health, dental, and behavioral health care to any DPS student and sibling(s), including children enrolled in DPS-affiliated Early Childhood Education programs at no charge to families.

Please visit the [DPS Mental Health Services webpage](#) for more information on mental health services, resources, and contact information.



Community Partner Resources

Our city is resource rich. Visit the [FACE Community Resources webpage](#) for resources specific to immigration and many others.

Other Resources:

[We Have Rights Campaign](#): A resource of videos to prepare for and safely defend your rights during encounters with Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE).

[Guiding Caregivers: How to Talk to a Child about Deportation or Separation](#): This fact sheet offers guidance on how to talk with children about deportation or separation. It guides family members, caregivers, and providers on how to discuss these issues with children, including whether it is appropriate and how to use analogies to explain the idea.

[How to Talk to Your Child about Immigration: Recommendations for Parents](#): Limit exposure to distressing news, share your family's immigration story to build empathy and pride, and address concerns honestly and gently. Celebrate your heritage and create a safety plan to help your child feel secure.

[How to Talk to Your Kids About Immigration](#): Misinformation about immigration is widespread, even in content your children may encounter. Start by asking what they know and addressing misconceptions with facts, like refugees' legal right to seek safety. Encourage empathy by exploring why people flee their homes and counter "us vs. them" narratives by highlighting immigrants' roles in daily life.