

Know Your Rights

Confidentiality

NYC Public Schools (NYCPS) does not ask about or track the immigration status of students or family members. Our personnel will not keep any documentation related to immigration status that you may give them. Unless absolutely required by law, NYCPS staff will not share student information.

Language Access

All New York City public schools provide free translation and interpretation services for families who prefer to communicate in a language other than English. Visit schools.nyc.gov/Hello to learn more.

Safe Schools

To maintain a safe environment for all students, non-local law enforcement officers, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel, are not allowed to enter NYCPS schools except when required by law, and only after the school has consulted with NYCPS lawyers. What happens if an ICE officer shows up at school?

- The School Safety Agent will call the principal, who will meet the officer at the safety desk. The principal will tell the officer that he or she must wait outside of the school building while the principal talks with NYCPS lawyers.
- The principal will speak with NYCPS lawyers and notify the parent or guardian. ICE officers will only be allowed to enter if they have a valid judicial warrant or if certain types of emergencies occur that require urgent action. Visit schools.nyc.gov/SupportingAllStudents to learn more.

This resource provides general information only. It is not legal advice. For legal advice, consult an attorney.



Can I visit my child's school if I'm undocumented?

Yes. To visit a NYCPS school, you need to have an official form of photo identification. NYCPS accepts IDNYC, the free municipal ID card issued by NYC to all New Yorkers.

IDNYC does not collect immigration status information. You can sign up for a free IDNYC card at nyc.gov/IDNYC.

