

Immigration Rights FAQ

Salem-Keizer is home to our diverse community of more than 38,000 students and represents more than 100 languages from around the world. Our mission and ethical responsibility – and our obligation under the law – is to ensure our schools are safe and supportive spaces that do not allow immigration status to interfere with any child’s education.

To provide clarity for our students, staff and families, we have provided answers to the following questions regarding immigration status and our commitment to protect students from discrimination and harassment.

Frequently Asked Questions on Immigration

If you have a question that is not answered below, please reach out by [emailing Community Relations and Communications](#). We will work to provide an answer and will continue to update these FAQs with answers to your questions.

What impact does undocumented immigration status have on my child’s education?

None. Children have a constitutional right to have equal access to education regardless of their immigration status or their parents’ status.

Does Salem-Keizer Public Schools ask for a child’s immigration status when he or she enrolls?

No. Public school districts like Salem-Keizer have an obligation to enroll students regardless of their immigration status and without discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. In Salem-Keizer, we do not ask about immigration status. As a result, we do not have or keep records about student or family immigration status.

Would the school district ever share our students’ immigration status with federal immigration officials?

No. Although we do not have or keep records of immigration status, we sometimes learn about it informally. No matter what we learn, we will not share that information with immigration officials. If we get a request for this type of student information, SKPS will work with their legal counsel to protect all of our students’ constitutional and legal rights to keep their information private.

Do we know whether there will be any immigration enforcement actions on school grounds?

As of today, we believe that the federal government is still following [guidance that designates schools as sensitive locations where immigration enforcement actions should not happen](#).

If a parent is detained while a student is at school, what will happen?

In the event that any parents are detained during school hours, the district will engage our crisis and emergency response teams to support our students. It is important that parents update emergency contact information for their students either at their school or in ParentVUE.

What about if I am a DACA recipient?

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is based on an order by the president. The new president could choose to rescind that order. If you are a recipient of DACA, consider reaching out to an immigration attorney now to determine if you have access to a better form of immigration status. [Additional information can be found here](#).

What does Salem-Keizer Public Schools do to ensure that no student or family is discriminated against or harassed because of their race, ethnicity, religion or national origin?

SKPS believes deeply that culture, heritage, and language are gifts and assets. We have policies in place that mandate no discrimination or harassment for our students, families or employees on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin and many other protected classes.

What should I do if I feel like my student or I have been the victim of discrimination or harassment?

Please report the behavior immediately to a school leader. Official complaints can be filed using the [forms and procedures listed on this page](#). We take these complaints very seriously to ensure that our schools continue to be safe spaces.