

Understanding Immigration Policies & Schools

Recent changes in immigration policy may raise concerns for families in our community. Below is important information on how Akron Public Schools supports students and ensures their right to education.

What the Law Says About Immigration & Schools

- All children, regardless of immigration status, have the right to attend public K-12 schools (*Plyler v. Doe*, 1982).
- Schools are not required to report a student's or family's immigration status to any government agency.
- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects student records, and immigration authorities cannot access student information without a court order.

Read More: [U.S. Department of Education Guidance](#)

School Safety & Immigration Enforcement

- Previously, schools were designated "sensitive locations" where immigration enforcement was restricted. New policies changed this.
- Ice must follow visitor procedures including signing in and remaining in the office waiting area.
- Staff are trained on how to handle inquiries from immigration officers, ensuring legal compliance while prioritizing student safety.

[APS Procedures For Supporting Families During Emergencies](#)

This document outlines the procedures for APS staff to follow in responding to law enforcement actions, including the presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers, and supporting displaced students and families during emergencies. It provides clear guidelines for ensuring the safety, confidentiality, and well-being of students, while maintaining professional conduct and compliance with legal requirements.

Resources

Link to [APS SUPPORTING FAMILIES DURING EMERGENCIES](#) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document.