San Francisco Immigrant Safety Nets

Immigrant families have rights no matter where they are from or their immigration status.

San Francisco is a Sanctuary City, and the city government is dedicated to creating a safe environment where immigrants can go to school, see a doctor, and be a part of their community. City officials cannot ask you about your immigration status when applying for City benefits. San Francisco will not cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), except when required by state or federal government. For more information, contact SFUSD’s Legal Department: (415) 241-6054.

Knowing your rights and being prepared can protect you from ICE, and puts you in a position of power.

4th and 5th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution Guarantee Your Right to:

- Remain silent: “I do not wish to speak to you”
- Deny search without warrant: “I do not consent to this search”
- Reject signing any documents: “I will not sign anything until my lawyer is present”
- Ask for an attorney and a phone call: “I wish to speak to my attorney”

The RAPID RESPONSE HOTLINE: 415.200.1548 is a multilingual hotline for immigrants in SF who need legal services due to ICE Activity. Call this number or get in touch with the San Francisco Immigrant Legal and Education Network (SFILEN) if you need help!

If ICE approaches you, you have the right to:

- Remain Silent. Refuse to give them your ID and name
- Refuse to answer their questions.
- Ask “Am I being detained?” If no, ask if you can leave.
- Ask for an attorney if they detain you
- Call (415) 200-1548 to report ICE and protect your community.

African Advocacy Network (African/Afro-Caribbean) (415) 503-1032
Arab Resource & Organizing Center (Arabic) (415) 861-7444
Chinese for Affirmative Action (Chinese) (415) 761-3222
SF Bar Association (English) (415) 989-1616
Filipino Community Center (Filipino) (415) 333-6267
CARECEN (English/Spanish) (415) 642-4400
PODER (Spanish) (415) 431-4210
14th Amendment Guarantees Equal Protection for Everyone in the US:

Every child has a right to equal education, including attending public school, no matter their race, ethnic background, religion, sex, whether they are rich or poor, or their immigration status.

San Francisco Non-Citizens have the Right to Vote

Since 2018, eligible non-citizens (for example: green card holders) can participate in SFUSD School Board Elections. You can make your voice heard in the 2019 School Board Elections if all of the following are true:

➢ You will be 18 years old on or before November 5, 2019
➢ You and your child live in San Francisco
➢ You are the parent, legal guardian, or caregiver of a child younger than 19 yrs. old
➢ You are not in prison right now or on parole for a felony conviction
➢ A court in the United States has never declared you “mentally incompetent”

However, there are risks associated with voting: The information that you provide might become visible to the federal government. Families who are concerned should:

You can contact the organizations below to learn about how to vote, protect your information as a non-citizen voter, and get involved in your schools:

- **African Advocacy Network** (African/Afro-Caribbean)  (415) 503-1032
- **Arab Resource & Organizing Center** (Arabic)  (415) 861-7444
- **Chinese for Affirmative Action** (Chinese)  (415) 761-3222
- **Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth**  (415) 239-0161
- **La Raza Community Resource Center** (Spanish)  (415) 863-0764
- **CARECEN** (English/Spanish)  (415) 642-4400
- **Mission Economic Development Agency** (Spanish)  (415) 282-3334
- **Mission Graduates** (Spanish)  (415) 864-5205
Get Active and Get Involved!

There are many other ways immigrant parents can get involved. The SFUSD Board of Education meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. They are open to the public and held at:

Irving G. Breyer Board Meeting Room || 555 Franklin Street, First Floor || San Francisco, CA

Language assistance is available. Visit SFUSD Interpretation and Translation Unit website for more details: https://tinyurl.com/SFUSDLanguageSupport

Get in touch with these groups at your school site to find out how you can get involved:

➢ English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)
➢ School Site Council (SSC)
➢ Parent Teacher Association (PTA)