



# PREPARING FOR POSSIBLE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE FOR CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

*As a trusted institution in immigrant families' lives, childcare providers can play a critical role in ensuring immigrant families have access to important information and resources during these turbulent and scary times.*

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## What can childcare providers do to help immigrant families?

- Encourage families to create a family preparedness plan to ensure children are cared for if a parent or legal guardian is arrested or deported by Immigration & Customs Enforcement ("ICE"). See ILRC's step-by-step guidance on creating a family preparedness plan in Spanish, English, and Chinese: <https://www.ilrc.org/step-step-family-preparedness-plan>.
- Ensure families keep their emergency contact information updated with all childcare providers and schools.
- Assist concerned families in connecting with free immigration legal services. Families can find immigration legal help on the Immigration Advocates Network's national directory of free or low-cost nonprofit immigration legal services providers at <https://www.immigrationlawhelp.org>.
  - If families pursue private immigration assistance, let them know that fraudulent immigration legal services are a frequent problem. See the ILRC's flyers on fraud: <https://www.ilrc.org/anti-fraud-flyers>.
- Remind families that they have rights even if they don't have immigration status, including the right to remain silent and the right to make decisions about their children. For more information, see ILRC's know your rights guides: <https://www.ilrc.org/know-your-rights-and-what-immigrant-families-should-do-now>.
  - ILRC has created wallet-sized red cards in multiple languages to help people assert their rights and defend themselves during an encounter with ICE. Keep extra red cards and provide them to families. This resource includes template red cards that you can print at home. For additional information on how to order or print your own red cards, visit: <https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards>. For ideas on how you can use red cards, see <https://www.ilrc.org/using-your-red-cards>.

- Create a protocol for what to do if ICE comes to your campus (see [ILRC's model policy here](#)). Let families know that you have policies in place to protect children and families.
  - Also let families know that ICE enforcement is unlikely to happen at a childcare center, since under ICE's own policy, they should not conduct enforcement actions at "sensitive locations," including licensed daycares, preschools, and other early learning programs.
- Create a plan for what to do if a parent or legal guardian of a child is arrested or deported. Some steps include:
  - Providing extra support to the child while in your care, understanding that their behavior may be impacted by this traumatic event.
  - Contacting the Rapid Response Network in your area: <https://ccij.sfbar.org/california-rapid-response-networks/>.
  - Reaching out to a bond fund for assistance for the family, such as the Bay Area Bond Fund: <https://www.bayareaimmigrationbondfund.org>.

## Print Your Own Red Cards At Home

To print at home, use heavy weight paper, or card stock. Cut out the cards along the dotted lines. If you're unable to print on both sides, you can simply fold on the center line to make a 2-sided card. If you use a professional printer, we suggest you print 2-sided cards with white text on red card stock with rounded corners.

<p>You have constitutional rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.</li> <li>• DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.</li> <li>• DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.</li> <li>• If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.</li> <li>• GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.</li> </ul>	<p>I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.</p> <p>I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.</p> <p>I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.</p> <p>I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.</p> <p><i>These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.</i></p>
<p>You have constitutional rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.</li> <li>• DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.</li> <li>• DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.</li> <li>• If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.</li> <li>• GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.</li> </ul>	<p>I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.</p> <p>I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.</p> <p>I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.</p> <p>I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.</p> <p><i>These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.</i></p>

To download this template in Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, French, Hmong, or Korean, visit [ilrc.org/red-cards](http://ilrc.org/red-cards).