

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What impact does undocumented immigration status have on my child's education?**

**A:** None. Children have a Constitutional right to have equal access to education regardless of their immigration status or their parents' status.

**Q. Does SPS ask for a child's immigration status when he or she enrolls?**

**A:** No. All public school districts have an obligation to enroll students regardless of their immigration status and without discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. Parents are not asked for a social security number and may use documentation other than a birth certificate to verify their child's age.

**Q. Would SPS ever share our students' immigration status with federal immigration officials?**

**A:** No. As mentioned above, SPS does not ask for, collect, or maintain information about students' immigration status. State and federal law protect students' personally identifiable information and records. Information is only disclosed with parent consent. Only "directory information" which would include name, contact information, photograph, athletic or activity information may be released without specific consent, and families have the right to opt-out annually from the disclosure of this information.

**Q. Are School Resource Officers (SROs) or other local law enforcement officials going to target my child while they're in school?**

**A:** No. SROs work with our schools to serve and support all students, regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. Additionally, Oregon police agencies have no legal authority to enforce federal immigration laws. ORS 181A.820 prohibits local law enforcement agencies from using agency money, equipment, or personnel to detect or apprehend someone who has not committed a crime and whose only violation is that they are persons of foreign citizenship present in the United States in violation of federal immigration laws.

**Q. Could my child ever be removed from school?**

**A:** District policy KK governs access by visitor to school facilities. All visitors, including law enforcement agencies, are required to check in with the building office prior to being granted access to the facility. Police or government officials cannot take a student from a school without a court order, making an arrest, a protective custody order, or permission from the parent or guardian. If a warrant, subpoena, or authorization from a parent or guardian is presented to the school office, the principal will contact district administration and receive legal counsel before taking any action.

**Q. What does SPS do to ensure that no student or family is discriminated against or harassed because of their race, ethnicity, religion or national origin?**

**A:** SPS believes deeply that all people are treated in a respectful manner. We have policies in place that mandate no discrimination or harassment of our students, families or employees on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin and many other protected classes.

**Q. What should I do if I feel like I have been the victim of discrimination or harassment?**

**A:** Please report the behavior immediately to school staff, administrators, supervisor, school leader or to the Superintendent.

**Q. What happens if a parent is detained by a federal agent and is unable to pick their child up from school?**

**A:** All families should make sure the school has updated emergency contact information for an authorized adult to pick their child up from school. This is important not only for this issue but all emergency situations because in the event a parent doesn't arrive, the school will reach out to the student's emergency contacts.