

How Care Teams Can Support Immigrant Families

Immigration laws and policies rapidly change, especially when there are new presidential administrations in office. Care teams working with mixed-status families can always provide support by sharing important information about people's rights. Use this guide to learn key tips about navigating immigration systems.



KNOW KEY IMMIGRATION AGENCIES AND COURTS

- [US Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#) – agency that decides immigration applications
- [Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#)
- [Executive Office of Immigration Review \(EOIR\)](#) – immigration court

KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE ONLINE IMMIGRATION TOOLS



Immigration Application Status:

Q: How can someone check their immigration application status?

A: USCIS has a [Case Status Online look-up tool](#). The applicant will need their 13 digit "receipt number".

Q: What is the receipt number?

A: This is the tracking number USCIS gives after someone has submitted their application.



Immigration Court Status:

Q: How can someone check the status of their immigration court case?

A: EOIR has an online [Immigration Court Case status](#) tool. The immigrant will need their A-number for the search.

Q: What is an A-number?

A: This is a 9-digit number given by the USCIS to someone who isn't a citizen.



Detainee Look-Up

Q: If an adult is detained (picked up) by ICE, how can they be found?

A: USCIS has an online [Detainee locator tool](#). You will need the adult Detainee's A-number.

Q: If an adult is detained (picked up) by ICE, how can they be found?

A: The search can also be done with the person's name spelled exactly and their birth country.

Q: Can I search for children under 18 years old?

A: Children under 18 will not show up in the Detainee Locator tool. Care teams can direct people to call [nearest ICE field office](#) from where the child was picked up.

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SUPPORT MIXED STATUS FAMILIES

Offer emergency planning for the care of the children. This includes:

- Having passports for the adults and children
- Give a copy of the parent's A-number to family and emergency contacts
- Identifying a caregiver for the child
- Creating a family reunification plan
- Listing the child's personal, health, and educational needs and service provider information

Key Planning Resources

- Massachusetts: BMC's [Family Preparedness Plan \(ESP\)](#) and [Facilitator Guide](#)
- Rhode Island: [Immigrant Coalition of RI's Family Preparedness Plan](#)
- Passport application for minors: [US Dept. of State](#)
- Benefits and Immigration: [Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition guides on public charge](#)

HELP PEOPLE BE PREPARED FOR ICE INTERACTIONS

- [Know their rights](#) in case ICE comes to their home.
- Print and Use ["Red Cards"](#) with Rights information
- Memorize phone numbers of family members and/or legal resources.
- Identify one person with US citizenship or immigration

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE DIGITAL DIGEST

DIGITAL DIGEST

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