



# Immigrant Legal Services Center



## UC Center UPDATES



### Information Over Fear: Resource for Immigrant Communities

As the new presidential administration takes office, we want to make sure that immigrant communities and those working with immigrant communities can easily identify resources that will help them understand immigration options available to them, as well as their rights under the law.

#### Where to start: Understand Your Immigration Options

Getting a legal consultation from a trusted and qualified legal services provider, even if you have received a consultation before, is crucial to protecting yourself. A consultation will help you understand if you are eligible for an immigration benefit today or could be in the future.

#### How to find legal assistance:

- **University of California students, family member of UC students, and UC employees with immigration status like DACA and TPS** can seek assistance from the UC [Immigrant Legal Services Center](#).
- **CA State University students and employees** may also be eligible for legal assistance through some community organizations that provide services to CSU affiliates: [calstate.edu/attend/student-services/resources-for-undocumented-students/pages/legal-support-services.aspx](https://calstate.edu/attend/student-services/resources-for-undocumented-students/pages/legal-support-services.aspx)
- **CA Community College students and employees** can seek assistance at [findyourally.com](https://findyourally.com)
- **For all other community members:** The Immigration Advocates Network National Immigration Legal Services Directory provides a list (in multiple languages) of nonprofit organizations that provide free or low-cost immigration legal services: <https://www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/>

## Know Your Rights and How to Put them into Action

Everyone living in the United States has certain basic rights under the U.S. Constitution – regardless of immigration status.

- Watch one of our recently **recorded webinars** on [Safety Planning and Family Preparedness](#) to understand your rights at home, in the workplace, and while driving.
- Additionally, these "**We Have Rights**" videos (available in multiple languages) were created by the ACLU and other organizations to help immigrant communities understand how to put their rights into practice if they encounter immigration at home, work, or in the street.

### REMEMBER:

- If immigration goes to your house, **you do not have to open the door**. Immigration cannot enter your house without a warrant signed by a judge (watch this [video](#) to see an example of a valid warrant)
- Carry any valid document that you have, but not papers from another country, such as your foreign passport or other foreign identification.
  - If you are a lawful permanent resident, do carry your “green card” with you.
  - If you are a DACA recipient, carry your work permit with you.
  - If you have been granted any other affirmative status (i.e., T visa, U Visa, asylum, etc.) by the Department of Homeland Security, carry proof of that.
- If you are arrested by immigration, **do not sign anything without speaking to an attorney first**.
- If you are taken into custody (detained) by immigration, and you are afraid to return to your country of origin, say that and ask to contact your family or a trusted person to help you find an attorney.
- **Print this wallet-sized red card** that you can keep with you to help you remember your rights.
  - Red cards are also available for UC affiliates on campus through your UCIMM attorney.

## Make a plan

It is critical to have a plan in place to make sure that you and your loved ones are as secure as possible in an uncertain time. Taking steps now to prepare will help you feel more confident and reduce stress and uncertainty.

- **Identify who to call if you are detained**: Keep a card of an emergency contact person who is reliable and will be able to help you if you are detained. Memorize their phone number.
  - Make sure that the emergency contact person knows what steps to take if they believe that you have been arrested or detained by immigration.
- **Collect and secure important documents**
  - For example: IDs, birth certificates, marriage, medical, financial and school records, and immigration records.
  - You can share these with a lawyer as well as other trusted adult to keep them safe and easy to access in case of an emergency.
- **Plan who will tend to young children and other responsibilities (e.g. financials)**
  - This [packet](#) developed by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center will help you develop a plan for your family.
- **Inform your emergency contact about how to find you if you are detained by immigration**
  - The ICE detainee locator: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls> can be used to find someone in immigration custody.
- **Save money for legal or other expenses**
- **Share your plan with family members or other trusted people**

## Local Networks that Help Respond to Immigration Arrests and Detentions

Many counties in California have established a local hotline and network of trained legal volunteers that can help respond to immigration arrests and detentions in the community. Most hotlines are available Monday through Friday and some are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **Click [here](#) to find your local rapid response network**. This [video](#) helps explain how rapid response hotlines work.



*As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.  
Thank you,  
The UC Immigrant Legal Services Center team*

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