



# LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REFERENCE GUIDE

**TITLE:** LAUSD CAMPUSES AS SAFE ZONES AND RESOURCE CENTERS

**NUMBER:** REF-6767.1

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Student Health and Human Services

**DATE:** February 2, 2017

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Reference Guide is to provide guidance to site administrators and District staff on the process and procedures to follow if federal immigration officials, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) agents or designees, request access to a school site or District facility, student, or student records.

**MAJOR CHANGES:** This revises REF-6767.0 and specifies the steps school sites, Local District (LD) Administrators of Operations and LD Operations Coordinators shall follow when federal immigration officials, including ICE agents, request access to a school site or District facility, student, or student records. Additionally, it includes a school site notification checklist. Refer to Attachment A: School Site Notification Checklist.

**BACKGROUND:** On February 9, 2016, the Board of Education (“Board”) reaffirmed its position regarding immigration reform, as noted in Board Resolution 032, entitled “LAUSD Campuses as Safe Zones and Resource Centers.” The Board declared that every LAUSD site will be a place of support and resource for all students and families, regardless of immigration status.

The 1982 U.S. Supreme Court case *Plyler v. Doe* held that undocumented children have a constitutional right to receive a free public K-12 education which provides the means to becoming a “self-reliant and self-sufficient participant in society” and instills the “fundamental values necessary to the maintenance of a democratic political system.” The Board resolved that the Superintendent shall establish all K-12 schools, early education centers, adult schools, and parent centers as resource and information sites for students and their families. Further, the Board encouraged the Superintendent to increase and enhance partnerships with community-based organizations and legal services organizations that provide resources for families facing immigration challenges. Additionally, the Board encouraged that a rapid response network be created to assist

**ROUTING**  
**All Schools**  
**All Local District**  
**Superintendents**  
**Local District**  
**Administrator of**  
**Operations**  
**Instructional Directors**  
**Operations Coordinators**  
**Los Angeles School Police**  
**SAA**  
**Non-School Site**  
**Administrators**  
**Charter School Division**  
**Early Education Centers**  
**Beyond the Bell**  
**Adult Schools**



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children whose family members have been detained through providing crisis management and support services.

## **KEY TERMS**

Below are key terms that will help District staff understand language which may be used when referring to students who have recently arrived to the United States. Although the District does not inquire about a student's immigration status, this reference guide aims to better support and assist our students and families that may be impacted by immigration matters.

### **Accompanied Immigrant Youth**

Youth who had entered the U.S. with a biological parent and were apprehended and placed in a detention center. Release occurs once a sponsor is identified. The deportation process begins; however, unlike unaccompanied youth, families do not have the pro-bono (free) legal services available.

### **Unaccompanied Immigrant Youth**

Youth under 18 years of age who entered the U.S. without a biological parent, were apprehended and placed in a detention center. These youth are held until a sponsor can be identified. Once released, the deportation process is initiated, and youth must attend court hearings to determine whether relief will be granted. Pro-bono legal services may be available for these youth.

### **Undocumented Student**

Anyone who does not have the legal documentation to live in the U.S. or who has overstayed his or her visa.

### **Enforcement Actions**

Pre-planned arrests of immigrants working, studying or living in the United States without lawful immigration status. These arrests can target a wide range of immigrants, from long-term lawful permanent residents who may have committed a minor offense, to undocumented immigrants who have final deportation orders.

### **Exigent Circumstances**

Exigent circumstances include, but are not limited to:

- National security/terrorism
- Imminent risk of death, violence, or physical harm to any person
- Fresh pursuit of dangerous felon
- Protection of evidence in a criminal case

### **Extended Support Site (ESS)**

The Extended Support Sites are located at each Local District and in key high volume areas. Student Health and Human Services staff at these sites assess student and family needs related to school enrollment, attendance, medical referrals, health insurance enrollment, legal resources and mental health referrals and connect them with services to ensure academic success.



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## **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**

The U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) enforces federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration to promote homeland security and public safety. ICE consists of three directorates including Homeland Security Investigations (“HSI”), Enforcement and Removal Operations (“ERO”) and Management and Administration (“M&A”). Although ICE is the main immigration enforcement body, there may be other federal immigration officials or designated agents who may request access to school sites and facilities, students, or student records.

### **GUIDELINES:**

According to a policy memorandum released by ICE in 2011 (Attachment B: ICE Memorandum: Enforcement Actions at or Focused on Sensitive Locations), commonly referred to as the “sensitive locations memo,” absent exigent circumstances or other related exceptions mentioned below, ICE officers and agents are to refrain from enforcement actions at the following locations and events:

- schools
- hospitals
- institutions of worship
- funerals, weddings and other public religious ceremonies
- during public demonstrations

The sensitive locations policy is intended to establish a non-disruptive environment during specific activities. It is important to note that there are exceptions to this policy, such as where prior approval must be obtained from a higher ranking ICE official before conducting enforcement operations in a sensitive location. In some cases, prior approval is not required, such as when there is an extraordinary circumstance involving public safety. Although this policy has not been rescinded to date, there may be subsequent changes under the new Presidential administration.

Notwithstanding the ICE “sensitive locations” policy, the typical circumstances under which law enforcement officers, including federal law enforcement officers, ICE agents, federal immigration officials, or designees may have a need to come to District campuses or facilities, when acting in the scope and course of their employment, include the following scenarios:

- Request for information or for general investigative purposes
- Service of a subpoena for records
- Service of a search warrant
- Action pursuant to exigent circumstances

Note: Exigent circumstances include, but are not limited to:

- National security/terrorism
- Imminent risk of death, violence, or physical harm to any person
- Fresh pursuit of dangerous felon
- Protection of evidence in a criminal case

These exigent circumstances are no different for any other law enforcement agency that



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may come onto District property.

## I. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR/DESIGNEE

### A. A School Administrator/Designee must complete the following tasks if ICE agents or other federal immigration officials come on campus for any reason:

1. Immediately notify your Local District Administrator of Operations and the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD) Watch Commander at 213-625-6631. (Refer to Attachment A: School Site Notification Checklist)
2. Request the name and badge number of the ICE agent or federal immigration official or designee, phone number of the agent's supervisor and purpose of the visit.
3. Obtain any documentation from the agent (e.g., subpoena; search warrant).
4. Advise the agent that prior to proceeding with their request, and absent exigent circumstances, notifications and direction from specific District offices must take place.
5. Wait for further direction and advice from the Local District Administrator of Operations to appropriately respond to the ICE agent request.
6. Activate the School Site Crisis Team, as needed. (Refer to Attachment C)
7. Create an iSTAR incident report, as soon as practicable: Indicate incident type as on or off campus activity. In the Issue Type tab, select Law Enforcement Activity, sub-category *Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Inquiry/Investigation*.
8. Obtain additional guidance from the AOO on any necessary notification to parents/caregiver of the student who may be the focus of the ICE inquiry.

**Note: Should an agent declare that exigent circumstances exist and demand immediate access to the campus, administrators should comply with the order of ICE or federal immigration official and immediately contact the LD AOO and LASPD Watch Commander.**

### B. If ICE agents or other federal immigration officials/designee are rumored or verified to be in the community, and this information may have an impact on school operations or students attending school, the School Administrator/Designee shall do the following:

1. Immediately notify your Local District Administrator of Operations for further guidance and direction.

## II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL DISTRICT (LD) ADMINISTRATORS OF OPERATIONS (AOO)

### A. A Local District (LD) Administrator of Operations must complete the following tasks in all ICE-related situations.

1. When an AOO is notified by any school that an ICE agent or federal



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immigration official is on site or they have received an ICE request, immediately notify the Division of District Operations.

2. Assess the situation, identify the level of crisis and respond as needed.
3. Designate LD staff to ensure the school site team is provided with guidance and support, as needed.
4. Verify that the LASPD Watch Commander has been notified.
5. Verify that an iSTAR incident report has been created. If needed, assist school administrator/designee in creating the iSTAR.
6. Contact the Office of General Counsel for guidance needed pertaining to access to student records, subpoena or search warrant service.
7. Follow up with affected school site administrator to provide necessary direction or advice.

**B.** On a case by case basis, the AOO must do the following:

1. Continue to assess and monitor the situation to determine if LD resources are needed. Possibly activate the Rapid Response Team (Local District Crisis Team). (Refer to BUL-5800, Crisis Preparedness Response and Recovery for more information).
2. Consult with the Office of Communications.
3. Provide consultation in notifying neighboring schools and local districts as needed.
4. Determine if other communication methods are needed (Blackboard Connect message, parent meeting, letters, resources, talking points, etc.).

**C.** *If a situation escalates to a Tier III crisis response*, (i.e. crisis requires central office crisis team to provide direct intervention services, assistance with communications and memos, etc.) LD Administrator of Operations shall coordinate additional support and guidance with the District Office Crisis Response Team.

**D.** *If ICE agents are rumored or verified to be in the community*, the LD Administrator of Operations shall do the following:

1. Attempt to verify that ICE is conducting enforcement actions/immigration raids in the area.
2. Determine if this might affect the school or students attending school.
3. If it is determined that ICE activity might affect the District or school-site operations, the LD Administrator of Operations will execute responsibilities outlined above (section II A) as needed.
4. Contact the Division of District Operations and the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD) Watch Commander at 213-625-6631.

**E.** The Division of District Operations, in collaboration with the LASPD Watch Commander, will assist with providing support from District Headquarters (Beaudry) on a case-by-case basis. To prevent duplicate communication, further guidance to local districts will be articulated through the LD Administrator of



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Operations.

### III. COMMUNICATION DURING NON-SCHOOL HOURS

If an ICE agent is on site during non-school hours (weekdays or weekends), conducting official ICE business, the administrator/designee on campus should immediately call the LASPD Watch Commander. Examples of activities or locations in which ICE agents may have a need to come to a District-site during non-school hours include, but are not limited to, Early Education Programs, Youth Service Programs, athletic events, parent conferences, school dances, etc. The Watch Commander will coordinate further notifications and assist involved staff with providing support to the school.

### IV. LAUSD SUPPORT SERVICES

The LAUSD has staff available throughout the District to provide support and assistance with accessing information and resources for students and families. The School Enrollment Placement and Assessment (S.E.P.A.) center located in LD Central provides families with enrollment assistance, immunizations, medical and mental health referrals, legal service referrals and health insurance enrollment. In addition, Extended Support Sites (ESS) are available to connect students and families to LAUSD programs and community resources. An ESS is located at each local district and in key high volume areas. Refer to Attachment D: Extended Support Sites.

**ASSISTANCE:** For assistance or further information, please contact your Local District Administrator of Operations. Additionally, the following District offices can provide support:

Office of the Superintendent  
(213) 241-7000

Division of District Operations  
(213) 241-5337  
<http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/1604>

Crisis Counseling and Intervention Services  
(213) 241-3841  
<http://achieve.lausd.net/smh>

Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD)  
(213) 625-6631  
<http://www.laspd.com/>

Office of the General Counsel  
(213) 241-7600  
<http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/2573>

Student Health and Human Services (SHHS)  
(213) 241-3840



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<http://achieve.lausd.net/shhs>

School Enrollment Placement & Assessment (S.E.P.A) Center  
(213) 482-3954

<http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/8703>

## **RELATED**

## **RESOURCES:**

- [BUL-5800.0, Crisis Preparedness Response and Recovery](#)
- [BUL-2469, Pupil Records: Access, Confidentiality, and Notice of Educational Rights](#)

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

ATTACHMENT A – School Site Notification Checklist

ATTACHMENT B – ICE Memorandum: Enforcement Actions at or Focused on Sensitive Locations

ATTACHMENT C – School Site Crisis Response Action Plan Checklist

ATTACHMENT D – Extended Support Sites