

Federal Response Update

Date: January 28, 2026

Federal Response Team



Cross-Divisional Team



- Academics
 - Health Education
- Student Supports
 - Inclusion and Special Education
 - Coordinated School Health
- Legal
- Budget
 - Grants & Partnerships
- Operations
 - Security
- Public Affairs
- Human Resources
 - DREA

Federal Response Areas



- Federal Funding (ESEA Title funding and other grants)
- Title IX
- IDEA
- Head Start
- Immigration
- Civil Rights
- Federal Agency Role

Federal Response Team Activities



- Evaluate federal actions that may impact district operations, compliance, funding, curriculum, civil rights, and student services
- Develop district response to federal actions
- Communications to district staff and schools



Immigration Enforcement



Work to Date



- 4310SP.B Adoption (Jan. 2025)
- Message to families (Jan. 2025)
- Development of FAQs and resource docs for staff (Winter-Spring 2025)
- School Leader Training (Spring 2025)
- Message to families (12/18/25)
- Coordination with City (1/15/26, 1/28/26)
- [New webpage](#) (Jan. 2026)
- Updated guidance docs to School Leaders (1/27/2026)

Work Underway and Planned



- Message to families w/updated protocols (1/29/26)
- Training for school leaders (1/30/26)
- Training for school staff
- Academic supports in case of absences
- Social emotional supports
- School support for family emergency planning

Building Partnerships



- Partnership with regional leaders
 - City of Seattle
 - Mayor's Office
 - Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs
 - Seattle Police Department
 - Puget Sound ESD
 - King County
- Community organizations for webinars for families and community
- Contractors
 - First Student/Zum guidance aligned
 - After school providers
 - Pre-school providers

General Protocols: Report or Rumor of Immigration Enforcement



- 1. Notify:** Any staff member observing or receiving a report of immigration enforcement activity near a school and on a school day should immediately make a timely report to Safety and Security and inform the principal
- 2. Consult:** Safety and Security will convene a central Response Team, if necessary, with the school leader.
- 3. Assess:** School leader and central Response Team will identify potential safety concerns and determine appropriate response.

General Protocols: Immigration Enforcement On-Campus



1. Deny Immediate Building Access.

- Front office and other staff should ask the person to wait outside of the building while you contact the principal.
- Reiterate that you must follow SPS's established process and visitor's policy to ensure a safe and non-disruptive school environment while their request is being evaluated.

2. Direct the Individual to the Principal or Designee.

Immediately contact the principal or their designee.

Call for security presence as needed.

3. Do Not Share Information.

- Do not provide any information about an individual student, family member, or SPS employee.

Contacts



Safe Schools Hotline: 206-252-0510. The Safety and Security Department is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Community members can make reports of safety issues impacting schools to District staff. In an emergency, reports should be made directly to 911.

Webpage: <https://www.seattleschools.org/resources/immigrant-students-and-families-support/>

Deportation Defense Hotline: 1-844-724-3737 to report federal immigration enforcement activity or get connected to emergency resources

Thank you!