

Early Care and Education Programs are Sensitive Locations

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has longstanding policies that restrict immigration enforcement actions in “sensitive locations.” This means that, except in limited circumstances, immigration agents should not conduct arrests, apprehensions, or other enforcement actions in the following locations:



Schools, including known and licensed child care programs, preschools, pre-kindergarten programs, Head Start programs, and other early care and education programs.

K-12 schools, colleges and universities, after-care programs, vocational or trade schools, and other education-related activities and events are also included in the policy.



School bus stops that are marked and/or known to the officer (during periods when children are present at the stop).



Medical treatment and health care facilities, such as hospitals, doctors' offices, accredited health clinics, and emergent or urgent care facilities.



Places of worship, such as churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples.



Religious or civil ceremonies or observances, such as funerals and weddings.



During public demonstrations, such as marches, rallies, or parades.

What this means for early care and education providers:

- Providers should notify staff and parents that the program is considered a sensitive location.
- Providers do not have to allow immigration officials into your program without a warrant.
- Providers should develop internal procedures in case of potential enforcement actions and share them with staff and parents.
- Providers should track enforcement actions at or near their property. These can be reported to a local immigration or legal services organization.

For more information about the sensitive locations policy, please see CLASP and NILC's factsheet, The Department of Homeland Security's "Sensitive Locations" Policies, available at clasp.org/sensitivelocations.

For questions about the sensitive locations policy or if you believe the policy has been violated, contact **Rebecca Ullrich** (rullrich@clasp.org) at the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). To learn more about CLASP, visit www.clasp.org.