

From *Plyler* to Sanctuary: Education Policies Promoting a Welcoming and Safe Environment for Immigrant Families

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**The Impact of Immigration Enforcement Policies on Teaching and Learning
in America's Public Schools**

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Equal Access to Education

➤ *Plyler v. Doe*, 1982

- Schools cannot deny enrollment based on immigration status

“The deprivation of public education is not like the deprivation of some other governmental benefit. Public education has a pivotal role in maintaining the fabric of our society and in sustaining our political and cultural heritage; the deprivation of education takes an inestimable toll on the social, economic, intellectual, and psychological well-being of the individual, and poses an obstacle to individual achievement.”

—*Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)



2014 Enrollment Guidance

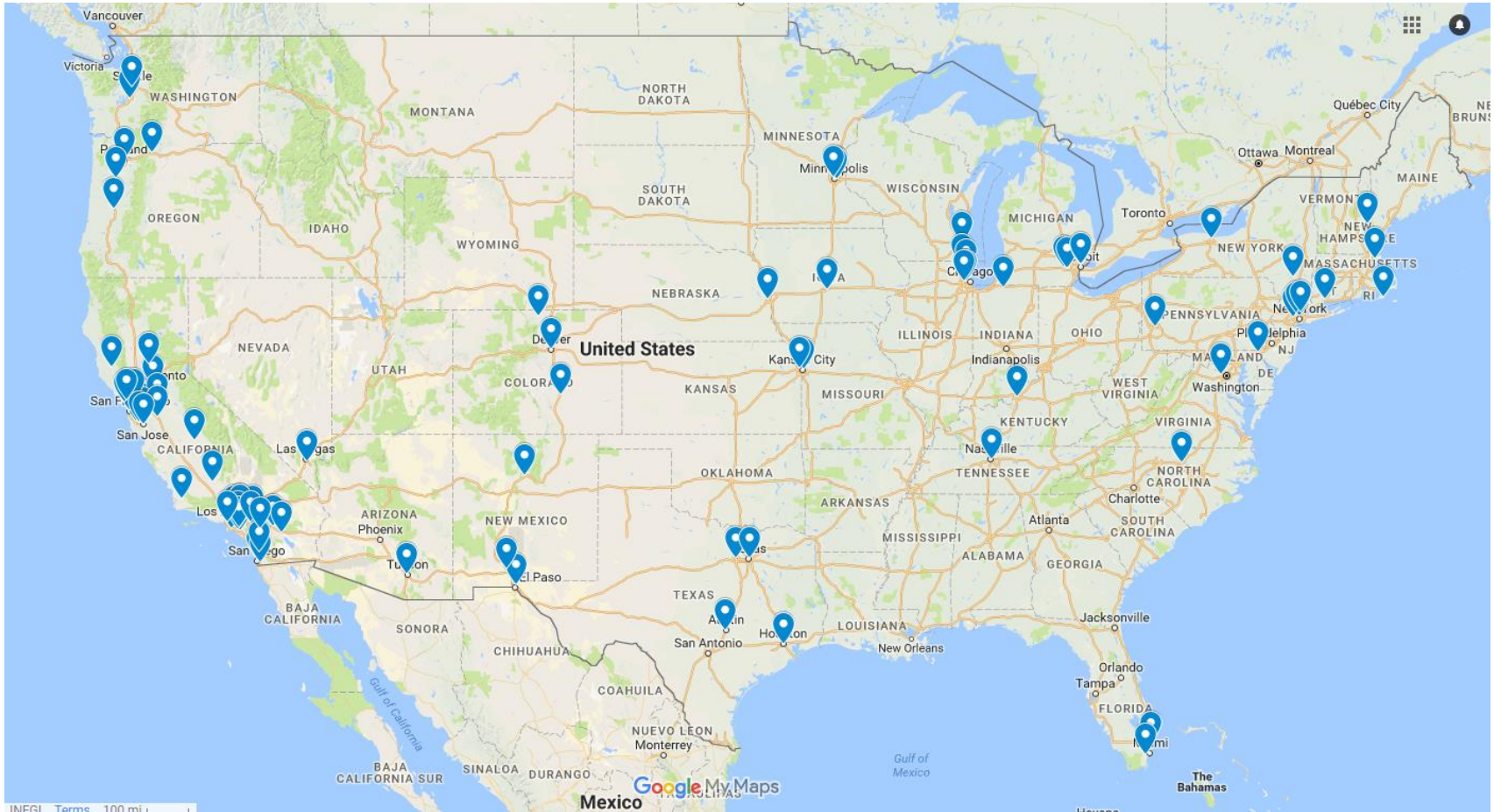
➤ Schools may not:

- **Maintain policies that discourage enrollment**
- **Ask about immigration status or require state-issued ID to determine residency in the district**
- **Require a birth certificate to establish age**
- **Require a social security number**

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, “Dear Colleague Letter on the Rights of All Children to Enroll in Public Schools,” updated August 6, 2015, www.justice.gov/crt/dear-colleague-letter-rights-all-children-enroll-public-schools.



Safe Zone School Districts



Note: No districts were mapped in Alaska or Hawaii.

Source: National Education Association, “Safe Zone School Districts,” accessed February 21, 2018, <http://educationvotes.nea.org/safezonedistricts/>.