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

Julie Sugarman  
Migration Policy Institute

The Impact of Immigration Enforcement Policies on Teaching and Learning in America’s Public Schools  
February 28, 2018, Washington, DC
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.”

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

Safe Zone School Districts

Note: No districts were mapped in Alaska or Hawaii.