



Supporting Students with Immigration- Related Questions

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As an ECC employee, you may encounter students who seek assistance or express concerns about their immigration status.

Here's how you can support them:

Listen with Empathy

- Create a safe and supportive environment.

Avoid Giving Legal Advice

- Do not provide legal guidance. Direct students to qualified professionals.

Highlight Campus Resources

- Inform students about on-campus services and resources at [**Elgin.edu/undocumented**](http://Elgin.edu/undocumented).
 - **ECC Resources and Support:**
Features Community Resources related to Housing, Legal, Healthcare, and Mental Health Services and more. A direct link is available here: [Community Resources for Undocumented Students](#)
 - **Wellness Services:**
ECC has a group of trained [Wellness Professionals](#) to help support mental and emotional well-being of all students. To schedule a free appointment with an ECC Wellness Professional
 - Schedule online by logging onto your Access ECC Portal and under "Schedule an Appointment," select "Wellness Services."
 - Or call [**847-214-7390**](tel:847-214-7390)
 - And/or email them at [**studentwellness@elgin.edu**](mailto:studentwellness@elgin.edu).
 - **Additional Support:**
ECC provides support for specific student populations, such as
 - [Support for Undocumented Students](#)
 - [Students for Wellness, Acceptance, and Non-discrimination Society \(SWANS\)](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

A direct link is available here: elgin.edu/undocumented/

For Students (Elgin.edu)

Includes answers to frequently asked questions for students. The questions focus on institutional policies, resources, and legal protections related to immigration, addressing concerns about deportation, interaction with law enforcement or ICE, and support for international and undocumented students.

Q: Does the college provide resources for students facing deportation or immigration challenges?

A: The college recommends working with some of our community partners for immigration legal assistance, such as Centro de Información, which provides immigration legal services at a low cost. They can be reached at [847-695-9050](tel:847-695-9050).

Q: Will ECC Police help ICE officers to apprehend and remove individuals from campus?

A: No, ECC Police are not involved in immigration enforcement. ECC Police do not ask about immigration status nor will they make arrests based solely on immigration status.

Q: Will the college share my immigration status with immigration authorities or ICE?

A: No, your records are entitled to the same FERPA protection that otherwise governs student education records in the United States.

Q: Who can I call for help if I don't feel comfortable calling the police?

A: ECC provides resources for members of our community who may feel uncomfortable calling or approaching the police. Anyone with emergency issues should call 911, but those with non-emergency safety concerns may also contact the General Counsel's Office at [847-214-7069](tel:847-214-7069), or any of these offices:

- Associate Vice President of Student Services and Development: [847-214-7220](tel:847-214-7220)
- Undocumented Student Resources: [847-214-7652](tel:847-214-7652)
- Wellness Services: [847-214-7390](tel:847-214-7390); after-hours support available

Q: Can a student be disciplined for calling immigration authorities on another student?

A: Yes, calling immigration authorities on another student could violate the ECC Student Code of Conduct if the action is done with the intent to harass, discriminate, or retaliate against the other student.

Q: How are ECC's international students affected?

A: International students and scholars are affected differently than students without legal status in the United States. According to the Department of Education, the Family Education Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) permits institutions to comply with information requests from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in order to comply with the requirements of the program. However, the information that can be requested and provided is limited to the categories listed in DHS regulations, and that request must be made to Lauren Nehlsen, our Principal Designated School Official (PDSO). For other information, international student records are entitled to the same FERPA protection that otherwise governs student education records in the United States.

Q: What Illinois laws protect immigrants?

A: Illinois state law prohibits law enforcement from acting on federal detainers or stopping, arresting, or searching an individual based solely on immigration status (5 ILCS 805/-Illinois TRUST Act). As of June 21, 2019, the Keep Illinois Families Together Act (5 ILCS 835) officially prohibits state and local law enforcement in the state of Illinois from entering into 287(g) agreements with ICE.

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