

KNOW YOUR *Child's Rights* AT SCHOOL

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2025

Federal and PA state law prohibit discrimination in education so that every child can fully learn, participate, and succeed. **Knowing your child's rights helps protect their dignity and well-being.**

ACLU
Pennsylvania



EQUAL EDUCATION FOR ALL

- Your child has the **right to equal treatment** at school, regardless of race, national origin, or **immigration status**.
- Schools cannot deny children a free public education, even if they are **undocumented**.
- Students with limited English must be given **language instruction and support**.
- Schools must protect students from **harassment and bullying**.



PRIVACY AND PROTECTION

- Schools must protect the **privacy of your family**.
- Schools **cannot ask** for your **immigration status** to enroll your child.
- Students cannot be forced to give up their **personal information** without consent.



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

- Students have the **right to express** their views, wear clothing with messages, or hand out flyers, as long as it does not disrupt the school.
- Schools cannot punish students just because they **disagree with their message**.
- Outside of school, students have the **full right to free speech**, including on social media.

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INTERACTIONS WITH POLICE AT SCHOOL

- **Be aware:** ICE and police may **racially profile** Hispanic students based on appearance, language, or accent. This can affect **any student** regardless of their **status**.
- ICE needs a **judicial warrant** (not just an administrative one) to enter private property.
- Tell your child **not to argue, resist, run, or interfere** with the officer.
- They can **ask if they are free to leave**. If the answer is yes, they should calmly and quietly walk away.
- Your child has the **right to remain silent** if questioned by police.
- They do not have to consent to a **search** of their belongings. Police need a **warrant**.
- If taken into custody, your child has the **right to a lawyer**.
- **Immigration status does not change these rights.**



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Students with disabilities have the **right to equal access** to classes, activities, technology, and health services.
- Schools must provide **accommodations** and **protect** them from harassment or bullying.

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TLGBQIA+ STUDENT RIGHTS

- Schools must **ensure** a **safe learning** environment for **TLGBQIA+** students.
- **Harassment** based on appearance, gender identity, or expression must not be ignored.
- Students **cannot be forced** to wear clothing that conflicts with their gender identity.

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PROTECT THEIR DIGNITY
Protect their future.

Learn more at **ACLUPA.org**

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