

*What's Next:*

# Preparing and Supporting Immigrant Students



# AGENDA

1. Explainer on what is happening and what to expect (20mins)
  - a. CUNY School of Law
2. Preparedness Planning (20mins)
  - a. Unlocal
3. Brief KYR Refresher (20mins)
  - a. CUNY Citizenship Now
4. Student planning (15mins)
5. Staff and Faculty planning (15mins)

# Ground Rules

1. This is being recorded.
2. Please do not unmute yourself
3. Add questions to the Q&A option not the chat
4. Ask questions throughout and presenters will answer them as they finish their presentation.
5. We will try to get to more questions at the end, questions that are not answered in the Q&A
6. Please do not ask about specific cases or circumstances, for those questions make an appointment with the individuals in this space.

# Immigration Updates





# What is Happening?

- Border, Ports and Admission
- Interior Enforcement Policies

**Preparedness  
planning:  
what should  
you know**



# Preparedness Plan

- Who is at risk of detention?
  - Not everyone is at high risk!
  - Existing removal order/Visa Waiver

# Preparedness Plan

- How to create a preparedness plan
  - Gather immigration documents
  - Get a consultation by an attorney
  - Prepare your medical needs
  - Prepare family with a plan
  - Clean up social media

# Know Your Rights



# Student Planning





# Educator Planning



# Protections in Place

- Data
  - FERPA is a federal regulation that protects student data. It cannot be accessed without a judicial subpoena or valid warrant

# Resources

- Data Protections for FAFSA Information
  - This guide provides an overview of how FAFSA information is used to determine financial aid eligibility and what protections are in place for families' personally identifiable information (PII). It also helps counselors address concerns from families about the safety of submitting FAFSA forms.

## 10 Practices to Safeguard Undocumented Student Data in Higher Education

### Introduction

A second Trump administration has raised concerns about the safety of data shared and retained as part of the admissions and financial aid processes. Higher education institutions should remember that they don't have to create entirely new policies to protect student information. Instead, we can build on the strong foundations of existing practices and policies that have proven effective over time.

This resource focuses on practical steps institutions can take with and for undocumented students, to protect their data. These practices can help reduce harm to students and their families who may be concerned about their safety and future in higher education. Higher education practitioners and administrators will gain the tools to make informed decisions, review and fortify the available protections, and build an action plan.

*Based on your school environment, the following practices should be undertaken collaboratively by practitioners, administrators, legal counsel, and/or students.*

### Ten Practices to Protect Undocumented Student Data

1. Research and clarify the protections currently available through federal and state policies (see [FERPA Overview](#) & [Protecting the Data of Undocumented Students in California](#)).
2. Work with your School Board or Board of Trustees to pass, reaffirm, and/or implement clear procedures regarding engagement with ICE personnel and data inquiries. (See [Chicago Board of Education](#) & [Los Angeles School Board](#) resolutions).
3. Train or remind key personnel of their legal responsibilities to follow federal, state, institutional, local & district directives (See [Legal Advisory 24-11-15: California and its Community Colleges Remain Sanctuary](#)).
4. Create or update campus-wide protocols to ensure campus personnel are aware of and follow specific processes when responding to inquiries regarding student records based on immigration status. (See [Cerritos Community College protocol](#)).
5. Create or reinvigorate an active campus task force to effectively implement these recommendations. Be sure to include the voices and concerns of those who are directly impacted. (See [Developing a Strong Undocumented Student Task Force](#)).
6. Review current departmental and institutional practices of collecting/storing the data of undocumented students and other vulnerable populations (See [Students Want to Feel Safe, Safety Breeds Inclusivity](#)).



Key departments that could be involved include: IT, admissions, registrar, financial aid, and/or bursar/cashier.



Audit public-facing student documents (e.g., transcripts) to ensure that information such as country of birth and immigration status is not included.



# Initial steps you can take

- Assess what vulnerabilities exist at your institution
- Educate on major points
- Develop guidance and protocol
- Emphasize an accountability network

# Assess Vulnerabilities

- What data does your campus currently collect? (see [10 Practices to Safeguard Undocumented Student Data in Higher Education](#))
  - Country of birth
  - Immigration status
  - Codes or indicators such as Dreamers, TheDream.US, etc
- Do staff and faculty know they should not state a student's status over written correspondence (ex. email)?



# Educate campus on major points

- State sovereignty is still an amendment in the constitution (ex. in-state tuition or state aid)
- City policy can still be leveraged to protect immigrants (ex. protections against ICE and private property)
- Misconceptions and anti-immigrant rhetoric will convince staff and faculty that a new president will also determine state law
  - Resource: [The National Law Review](#)
- Examples: Campuses have hosted Know Your Rights workshops and talking circles



# Guidance and Protocol development

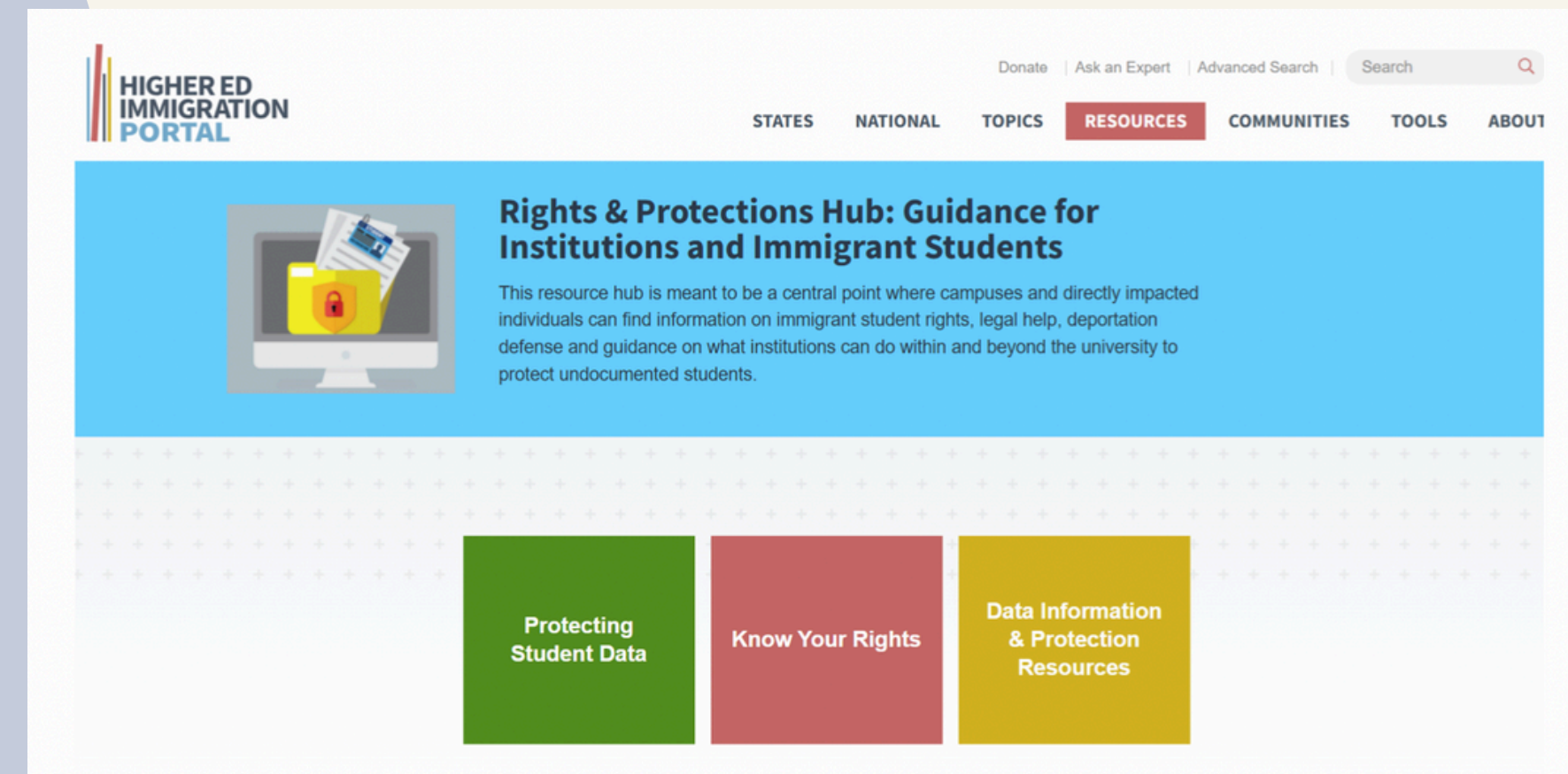
- Inquire about drafting or sharing guidance/protocols with campus leadership to encourage your campus to share similar guidance on websites and to staff and faculty:
  - Lehigh University - For Calls or Visits by ICE or FBI
  - Adelphi University - Protocols for Contact from ICE
  - University of California - Access to Public vs Limited Areas of Campus
  - Pasadena Community College - Feds/ICE seek campus access or student records
  - Northeastern Illinois University - FAQ related to ICE

# Network of Accountability

- You cannot do this alone, there needs to be others involved and updated:
  - Engage key departments
  - Vice President or Provost to lead and push efforts
  - Campus dream teams so they are aware
- Make clear asks on what is needed
- Consider connecting with faculty and spaces at the intersection of this work.
  - If you are at a CUNY campus this can include liaisons and TheDream.US liaisons.

# Stay up to date and connected

- Follow all of us (& others) on social media.
- President's Alliance for Higher Education and Immigration
  - [Higher Education Portal](#)
  - [FAFSA & data protections](#)
  - [Rights and Protections Hub](#)
  - [Join their mailing list!](#)



# Uplift ongoing efforts

- Recent efforts in NY
  - The New York Empire State Licensing Act S.1086 & A.675 was reintroduced on January 8, 2025. This bill would remove citizenship and immigration status requirements for professional licenses in New York.
  - New York S.1024 was introduced on January 8, 2025 by NY Senator Robert Jackson (D-NY-031). This bill expands the eligibility requirements for in-state tuition for undocumented, DACA, refugee, and asylum seeker students.



# CUNY IMMIGRANT STUDENT SUCCESS CENTERS

Full-time staff with regular programming and 1-on-1 support



**John Jay Immigrant  
Student Success  
Center**  
**@jjcimmigrantsuccess**



**Brooklyn College  
Immigrant Student  
Success Office**  
**@issobc**

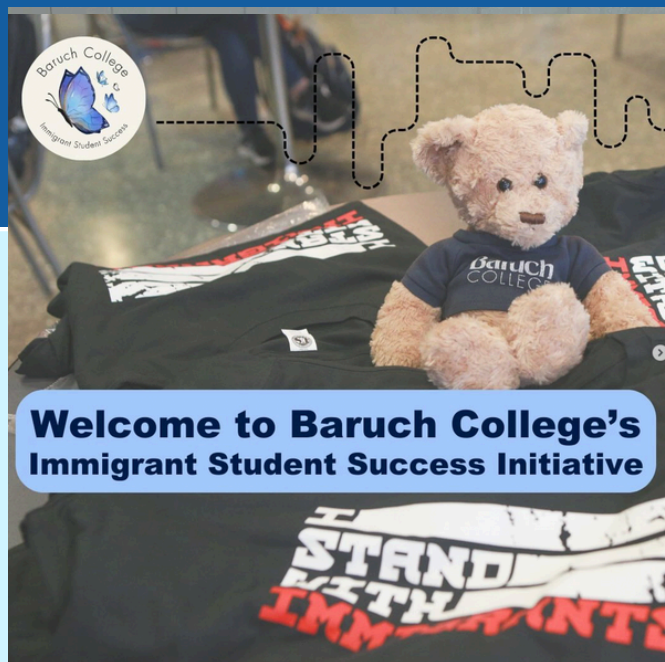


**Immigrant Student  
Resource and Research  
Center**  
**@ccnyimmigrantcenter**

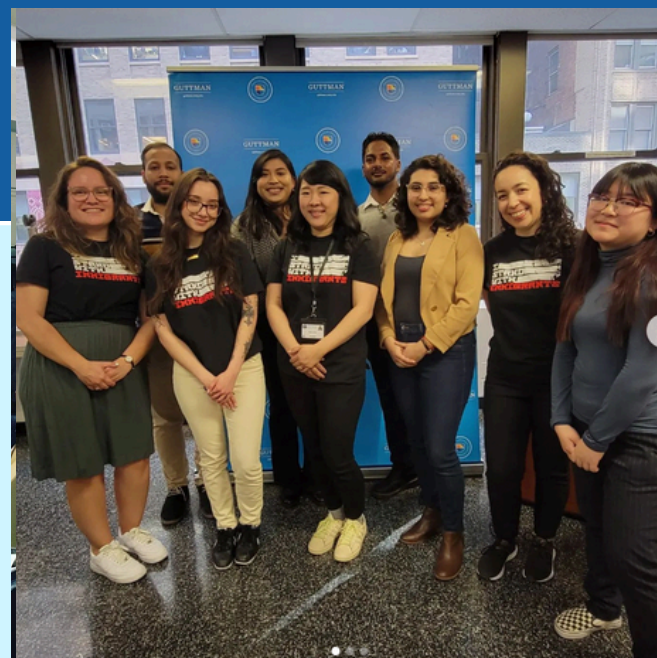


# CUNY IMMIGRANT STUDENT SUPPORT INITIATIVES

Campus Liaison groups working together to provide programming, internships, or scholarships



Baruch College  
@baruch\_isso



Guttman Community  
College  
<https://guttman.cuny.edu/immigrant-student-success-initiative/>



Queens College  
<https://www.qc.cuny.edu/immi/>



# IMMIGRANT LIAISONS

Each campus has liaisons assigned by the President

[www.cuny.edu/undocumented](http://www.cuny.edu/undocumented)



Baruch College



Borough of Manhattan Community College



Bronx Community College



Brooklyn College



City College



College of Staten Island



CUNY In The Heights



CUNY Law School



CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy



CUNY Graduate Center



CUNY School of Journalism



CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies



CUNY School of Professional Studies



CUNY Welcome Center



Guttman Community College



Hostos Community College



Hunter College



John Jay College of Criminal Justice



Kingsborough Community College



LaGuardia Community College



Lehman College



Macaulay Honors College



Medgar Evers College



New York City College of Technology



Queens College



Queensborough Community College



York College



# Q&A

**Please put your  
questions in the Q&A**

**Not the chat**

**Please do not  
unmute yourself**

