

# MIGRANT RIGHTS: EDUCATION

## You have the right...

### To a free, fair and equal education

- All children present in the U.S. have the right to enroll in a public school until 18 years of age - regardless of race, language, disability, country of origin, immigration status, or whether they live in temporary housing or are homeless. In most cases, youth over 18 may still enroll in public school if they are able to graduate by the time they turn 21.
- All children have the right to enroll in school immediately upon request – even if the child does not have all requested documentation.
- You have the right to enroll in public adult education programs if you are over the age of 18 – regardless of nation of origin.
- All children have the right to a free evaluation if there is suspicion of a learning or behavior disability.

### To accessible communication

- Parents have the right to receive all school-related documents and information in their preferred language.
- Parents have the right to a free professional interpreter provided by the school for all communication with the school as needed.
- Students and parents have the right to receive the school manual in their preferred language.
- Parents have the right to receive immediate notification if their child is at risk of failing their grade level.
- Students have the right to have their level of English regularly and formally evaluated in school.

### To protect your student

- You have the right to communicate directly with administrators regarding any problem the student is facing in school, and to question disciplinary actions taken against your child.
- You have the right to report any violation of rights and/or instances of racism or discrimination.

- Your child has the right to refuse to serve as an interpreter for a parent or anyone else.

### To privacy and confidentiality

- Your immigration status is private information. No school or teacher should ever request information on the student or family's immigration status/documents.
- Schools must keep all student information private unless the family consents to sharing.

\*Information shared about the student in a school directory can be omitted at the family's request.

**If you believe that your rights or those of your student have been violated, you may make a report:**

**Complaints with the New Orleans Parish School District:**

**Schools directly operated by OPSB:**

- 1) Contact the school Principal
- 2) Contact OPSB's Parent Family and Community Engagement Specialist Cathy Chase  
cathy\_chase@opsb.us  
504-304-5675

**Charter Schools:**

- 1) Contact the school Principal
- 2) Contact your school's Board Chairman or President
- 3) Contact OPSB's Parent Family and Community Engagement Specialist Cathy Chase  
cathy\_chase@opsb.us  
504-304-5675

**Complaints with the Jefferson Parish School District:**

- 1) Contact Principal
- 2) Contact the Executive Director of School Support  
504-349-8904
- 3) Contact the Compliance Officer  
504-365-5312 or Gretchen.williams@jpps.k12.la.us

**Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)**  
For general legal support on education issues  
**1-800-591-3656**  
**201 St Charles Ave. Suite 2000**  
**New Orleans, LA 70170**

# Resources

All resources listed here provide free or low-cost services, are language accessible, and available to all regardless of legal status.

## English Language Classes, Tutoring and Adult Education Resources

### Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Immigration and Refugee Services

Citizenship classes, family literacy and ESL for adults.

(504) 861-6348

New Orleans, Metairie

\* Cost: \$35 for ESL class materials.

### Delgado Community College

ESL for adults and HiSet preparation.

(504) 671-5434

615 City Park Ave, New Orleans, LA 70119

To enroll online: <http://www.dcc.edu>

\* Cost: Free

### Homeworkla.org

Homework help online.

Tutors in English and Spanish

\* Cost: Free

### JCFA

Alternative high school with flexible hours.

Algiers, Jefferson, Lafayette, and Harvey (504) 410-3121

<https://jcfa.co>

\* Cost: Free

### Jefferson Parish Public Schools

ESL classes and HiSet .

(504) 836-3396 Eastbank

(504) 361-5493 Westbank

<http://jpschools.org/department/district-affairs-and-community-engagement/adult-education/>

\* Cost: Free

### La Semilla

English classes

(504) 595-1138

[info@lasemillanola.org](mailto:info@lasemillanola.org)

[www.lasemillanola.org](http://www.lasemillanola.org)

\* Cost: \$30 for the year

### ReNEW Accelerated High School

Alternative accelerated high school with abbreviated schedule available.

(504) 267-3882

3649 Laurel St., New Orleans

<https://rahs.renewschools.org/>

\* Cost: Free

### The NET Charter School

Alternative high school with flexible hours.

Two locations in New Orleans.

(504) 267-9060

<https://www.eqaschools.org/>

\* Cost: Free

### Support for Parents

Most schools have a Social Worker on staff and Homeless Services available to support students and families.

### Our Voice Nuestra Voz

An organization mobilizing parents and families for a more just education system.

Send Facebook message

@OurVoiceNuestraVoz or email:

[hola@ovnv.org](mailto:hola@ovnv.org)

<http://ovnv.org>

### Familias Unidas en Acción

Support for parents and families in navigating the education system and provide Know Your Rights information. Spanish only.

(504) 739-8295

Send a message through Facebook or email

[Familias.unidas.accion@gmail.com](mailto:Familias.unidas.accion@gmail.com)

<http://www.familiasunidasla.org>

### Jefferson Parish Bilingual Parent Liaison

School district staff specialized in providing support for Spanish-speaking families.

Mayra Casiano (Eastbank)

(504) 736-7377 822 Clearview Parkway, Elmwood

[mayra.casiano-mercado@jpschools.org](mailto:mayra.casiano-mercado@jpschools.org)

Areli Hernandez (Westbank)

(504) 762-8481

Higgins School – Room 322

7201 Lapalco Blvd. Marrero

[areli.hernandez@jpschools.org](mailto:areli.hernandez@jpschools.org)

### Puentes LatiNOLA

Resources and support groups for students and families.

(504) 821-7228

[info@puentesneworleans.org](mailto:info@puentesneworleans.org)

[www.puentesneworleans.org](http://www.puentesneworleans.org)

### EdNavigator

Online guides and resources for parents.

[www.ednavigator.com](http://www.ednavigator.com)

[info@ednavigator.com](mailto:info@ednavigator.com)

### Orleans Parish Family Resource Center

Enrollment help for students in Orleans Parish.

### Uptown

2300 General Taylor St., New Orleans

### New Orleans East

7301 Dwyer Rd., New Orleans

### Westbank

2401 Westbend Parkway, New Orleans

<https://enrollnola.org/resources/family-resource-centers>