

Protecting Students' Privacy and Confidentiality

What is FERPA

1

- FERPA is a federal law in the United States designed to protect the privacy of student education records.



2

FERPA & Immigration Status

- FERPA strictly prohibits schools from sharing a student's immigration status or other sensitive information- such as addresses or education records- with outside entities, including law enforcement or federal immigration agencies without proper legal authorization.



3

Legal Authorization

- Legal authorization generally requires a judicial subpoena or a warrant issued by a state or federal judge.



4

Seek Guidance from Your District

- Seek guidance from your district on proper policy and procedure on how to ensure that FERPA is not violated as well as how to ensure that your school continues to be a safe learning environment.



5

Provide Emotional, Academic and Trauma Informed Support

- Ensure student support specialists are trained in supporting students dealing with stress and trauma of family separation or deportation threats.
- Consider accommodations for students dealing with emotional or logistical disruptions such as missing school or relocating.
- Create safe and supportive spaces in schools where students can share their concerns and access resources freely, without fear of judgment or stigma.

