

U.S. Immigration Support: Finding an Attorney, Community Resources, National Organizations, and Government Links

How to Find a Licensed Immigration Attorney:

International students, faculty, researchers, and staff may use this guide as a resource to find an immigration lawyer to assist with personal immigration questions and concerns, as well as locate community-based immigration resources available at a reduced cost.

American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) is a nonprofit association of attorneys in the United States that specialize in immigration law. The AILA website has a tool for finding an immigration lawyer to assist with immigration questions and concerns based on personal need and geographic location. All attorneys listed in the “Find an Immigration Lawyer” database are licensed attorneys, in good standing in at least one state, and have been an AILA member for a minimum of two years.

To find an immigration lawyer on the [AILA website](#) that specializes in your immigration need:

1. Select the type of immigration lawyer from the drop-down option, e.g. Asylum, Family, Business and Employment, Deferred action/DACA, Waivers, etc.
2. Enter the preferred language, your geographic information and click “search”
3. A list of attorneys specializing in your immigration need will appear.

List of Pro Bono Legal Services Providers (EOIR)

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), Office of Policy, Office of Legal Access Programs (OLAP) administers the [List of Pro Bono Legal Service Providers](#) or the “List”. The List is provided to individuals in immigration proceedings who need legal representation, and it contains information on non-profit organizations and attorneys who have committed to providing at least 50 hours per year of pro bono legal services in the immigration court

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location where they appear on the List. The List also contains information on pro bono referral services that refer individuals in immigration court proceedings to pro bono counsel.

The link to the pro bono List for each campus location by state can be found [here](#). Once the webpage opens to the PDF List, please scroll down to the following pages to access the pro bono resources for each state:

- California: page 10
- Florida: page 33
- Massachusetts: page 61
- Maine: *See Massachusetts List
- New York: page 91
- North Carolina: page 98
- Virginia: page 138
- Washington: page 143

Legal and Community-Based Services by Campus Location:

The community-based organizations listed below may be able to provide free or low-cost legal assistance related to your immigration status. Please note that the university is highlighting these organizations as an aid to start your legal services search. The list is not comprehensive and is not an endorsement of any organization.

Additionally, links are available to state and local bar association lawyer referral services that may connect you with a licensed attorney in various areas of the law. State and local lawyer referral services often require a fee for consultation. Depending on your circumstances, some attorneys may offer a sliding-scale or reduced rate.

Boston & Burlington, MA

Catholic Charities Boston - <https://www.ccab.org/refugee-immigrant-services/immigrant-legal-services/>

**This link may require an internet connection outside of NU's network to access.*

City of Boston Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement - <https://www.boston.gov/departments/immigrant-advancement>

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Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) Immigration Impact Unit - <https://www.publiccounsel.net/iu/>

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- The CPCS Immigration Impact Unit assists court-appointed attorneys with understanding the immigration consequences associated with a potential criminal case

Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) - <https://www.gbls.org/what-we-do/immigration>

Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition - <https://miracoalition.org/>

Pair Project - <https://www.pairproject.org/>

Rian Immigrant Center - <https://www.riancenter.org/who/>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: Massachusetts Bar Association - <https://www.massbar.org/public/lawyer-referral-service>

Local: Boston Bar Association - <https://bostonbarlawyer.org/>

Arlington, VA

Amica Center for Immigrant Rights - <https://amicacenter.org/>

Arlington Government Immigration Legal Assistance Organizations - <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Topics/Immigration-Assistance>

Ayuda - <https://ayuda.com/legal-services-4/immigration-law/>

CARECEN - <https://carecenc.org/immigration/>

Just Neighbors - <https://www.justneighbors.org/gethelp/>

Legal Aid Justice Center - <https://www.justice4all.org/get-help/#WhatWeCanHelp>

State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: Virginia State Bar Lawyer Referral Service - <https://vsb.org/Site/Site/legal-help/vlrs.aspx>

Charlotte, NC

Carolina Migrant Network - <https://carolinamigrantnetwork.org/>

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Charlotte - <https://ccdoc.org/immigrations/immigration>

Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy - <https://charlottelegaladvocacy.org/what-we-do/immigration/>

Jalloh's Upright Services - <https://jus-nc.org/>

La Coalición (Latin American Coalition) - <https://mylac.org/how-we-can-help-you/legal-services/>

State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: North Carolina Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service - <https://www.ncbar.org/public-resources/find-an-nc-lawyer/>

Miami, FL

Catholic Legal Services, Archdiocese of Miami - <https://www.cclsmiami.org/>

Center for Immigrant Advancement - https://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory/organization.512266-Center_for_Immigrant_Advancement_Inc

Florida Immigration Law & Justice Center - <https://floridailj.org/services/>

Hispanic Unity of Florida - <https://www.hispanicunity.org/>

Open Arms Community Center - <https://openarmscommunitycenter.org/services/immigration-program/>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service - <https://www.floridabar.org/public/lrs/>

Local: Miami-Dade Bar Lawyer Referral Service - <https://www.miamidadebar.org/lawyer-referral-service/>

New York City, NY

African Communities Together - <https://africans.us/immigration-legal-services>

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CAMBA - <https://camba.org/programs/immigration-legal-services/>

The Legal Aid Society - <https://legalaidsnyc.org/get-help/immigration-deportation/>

Legal Services NYC - <https://www.legalservicesnyc.org/resources/immigration-asylum/>

New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs - <https://www.nyc.gov/site/immigrants/legal-resources/moia-immigration-legal-support-centers.page>

Unlocal - <https://www.unlocal.org/>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: New York State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service - <https://nysba.org/new-york-state-bar-association-lawyer-referral-service/>

Local: New York City Bar Legal Referral Service - <https://www.nycbar.org/get-legal-help/>

Oakland, CA

Bay Area Legal Aid - <https://baylegal.org/>

Catholic Charities East Bay - <https://www.cceb.org/immigration-legal-services/>

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Centro Legal de la Raza - <https://www.centrolegal.org/immigrants-rights/>

East Bay Community Law Center - <https://ebclc.org/get-help/immigration-services/>

East Bay Spanish Speaking Citizens' Foundation - <https://sscf.org/immigration>

Immigration Institute of the Bay Area - <https://iibayarea.org/services/legal-services/>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: State Bar of California Certified Lawyer Referral Services Directory - <https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Need-Legal-Help/Certified-Lawyer-Referral-Services-Directory>

Local: Alameda County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service - <https://www.acbanet.org/need-a-lawyer/>

Portland, ME

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project - <https://ilapmaine.org/get-legal-help>

Catholic Charities Maine Refugee and Immigration Services – <https://www.ccmaine.org/refugee-immigration-services>

City of Portland Legal Aid Clinic - <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/1534/Immigration-Legal-Aid-Clinic>

State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: Maine State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service - <https://www.mainebar.org/page/LawyerReferralService>

Silicon Valley, CA

Asian Law Alliance - <https://asianlawalliance.org/legal-services/>

Bay Area Legal Aid - <https://baylegal.org/>

Immigration Services of Mountain View - <http://www.ismv.org/services.html>

San Jose Local Immigration and Community Resources -
<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/office-of-the-city-manager/racial-equity/immigrant-affairs/local-resources>

SIREN - <https://sirenimmigrantrights.org/>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: State Bar of California Certified Lawyer Referral Services Directory -
<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Need-Legal-Help/Certified-Lawyer-Referral-Services-Directory>

Local: Santa Clara County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service -
<https://www.sccbba.com/>

Seattle, WA

Catholic Immigration Legal Services - <https://ccsww.org/services/catholic-immigration-legal-services/>

Entre Hermanos - <https://entrehermanos.org/immigration/>

Lutheran Community Services Northwest - <https://lcsnw.org/our-impact/refugee-and-immigrant-services/>

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project – <https://nwirp.org>

Seattle Legal Defense Network - <https://www.seattle.gov/iandraftaffairs/programs-and-services/immigration-legal-defense>

State and Local Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services

State: Washington State Bar Association Legal Help - <https://wsba.org/for-the-public/find-legal-help>

Local: King County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service -
<https://www.kcba.org/?pg=Lawyer-Referral-Service>

National Non-Profit Resources:

The Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration

This organization is an alliance of U.S. college and university leaders who are dedicated to increasing the public's understanding of how immigration impacts students, campuses, and communities. The Alliance supports policies that create welcoming environments for immigrant, undocumented, and international students on campus. The Alliance has extensive resources for immigrant students and community members, which are available here: [The Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration](#).

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

The ACLU is a national nonprofit civil rights organization dedicated to protecting the rights and liberties of all people in the United States, regardless of immigration status. The ACLU advocates for peoples' rights in federal and state courts, engages in nationwide advocacy campaigns, and publishes Know Your Rights resources. The ACLU's immigration resources can be found here: [Immigrants' Rights | American Civil Liberties Union](#).

The National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

The NILC is a leading U.S. advocacy organization dedicated to advancing and defending low-income immigrants' rights and opportunities. NILC focuses on the intersection of immigrant, economic, and racial justice when engaging in lawsuits, policy advocacy, movement building, and narrative and cultural change. The NILC's immigration resources can be found here: [The National Immigration Law Center: Home](#).

The National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC)

The NIJC focuses on ensuring human rights protections and access to justice for all immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. The NIJC advocates for migrants through policy reform, lawsuits, and public education. Know Your Rights information, how-to guides, and other legal and social resources are available on the NIJC website here: [The National Immigrant Justice Center: Legal Resources](#).

United We Dream

United We Dream is the largest immigrant youth-led advocacy network in the United States and is focused on bringing education, economic, racial, gender, reproductive, and

environmental justice to all people, regardless of their immigration status. United We Dream has 25 hubs nationwide that support, engage, and empower immigrant youth. United We Dream publishes DACA resources on its website here: [United We Dream](#)

Informed Immigrant

Informed Immigrant strives to provide undocumented immigrants with the information and resources they need to succeed in the United States. Informed Immigrant has an extensive resource library for immigrants spanning not only legal assistance but also medical and education help. Informed Immigrant's DACA resource library is available here: [Informed Immigrant](#)

Immigrants Rising

Immigrants Rising is an organization that works to increase educational access and opportunities for undocumented people through institutional policy changes and direct support to empower educators, students, and communities. They also publish information resources related to DACA on their website here: [Beyond DACA](#)

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (IRLC)

IRLC is a national nonprofit resource center that provides immigration legal trainings, technical assistance, and educational materials, and engages in advocacy and immigrant civic engagement to advance immigrant rights. General information about IRLC can be found on their website [here](#).

IRLC also has resources specific to DACA which can be found [here](#).

Government Immigration Agencies

U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)

USCIS is a sub agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). USCIS is the federal agency that grants immigration benefits from within the United States. USCIS is responsible for adjudicating most temporary and all permanent immigration "green card" status and establishes policies regarding immigration services. USCIS publishes immigration program updates and procedures on their website [here](#).

U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP)

CBP is the federal agency charged with enforcing U.S. trade, customs, and immigration regulations at U.S. international borders and ports of entry, such as international airports and land crossings. CBP Officers are tasked with inspecting all travelers at U.S. ports of entry, determining admissibility in legal immigration status, and issuing I-94 arrival-departure records which is a legal status document. CBP publishes news, updates, and resources related to travel/admission to the U.S. and I-94 records on their website [here](#).

U.S. Department of State (DOS)

DOS is the federal agency responsible for U.S. foreign policy including oversight of U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad. DOS publishes city-specific information for visa applications and appointment wait times on their website [here](#).

Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)

SEVP is a jointly operated program by the Department of Homeland Security and Department of State. The F-1 international student program under SEVP is managed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a sub agency of DHS. The J-1 exchange visitor program under SEVP is managed by the Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs at DOS. Both agencies use the electronic system, the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), to track and monitor F students and J visitors while in the United States.

- General information for F-1 international students can be found on the ICE website [here](#).
- General information for J-1 exchange visitors can be found on the DHS website [here](#) and the DOS website [here](#).

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is a subagency of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and is charged with adjudicating immigration cases by interpreting and administering U.S. immigration laws. The EOIR conducts immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings. Visit their website for more information [here](#).