



Travel Tips: ICE at Airports

English • March 2026

Make a Safety Plan If You Need To

If you have an ongoing immigration case, consider speaking with an immigration attorney before you travel or go to an airport.



Keep phone numbers for a lawyer, a friend, family member, or other emergency contact on your person. Try to memorize them or carry them with you.



Share your location with a trusted friend, family member, or emergency contact.



Share flight information with your trusted friend, family member, or emergency contact.

Special Consideration for Parents

Families can explore designating a trusted adult to care for their children through designation or guardianship. We strongly encourage consulting with an attorney before taking these steps to understand what is right for your family.

For more information, see our flyer Resources for Immigrant Parents and Caregivers by scanning the QR Code or visiting:
www.nyc.gov/knowyourrights



For guidance specific to your situation, please call the City-funded, free, and safe MOIA Immigration Legal Support Hotline for information on how and where to find immigration legal help. Free legal help is available to NYC residents who meet certain income requirements.

800-354-0365



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Starting March 23, 2026, ICE agents will be deployed to 14 US airports to assist with security operations amid an ongoing partial government shutdown of DHS.

What to Expect at the Airport?



ICE is deployed to 14 airports nationwide, including LaGuardia, JFK, and Newark.



Be ready for long security lines at the airport. Arrive early to ensure you can pass screening in time for your flight.

Bring Physical Copies of Important Documents



Proof of lawful status, such as a valid visa, green card, work permit, or receipt notices for any pending applications.



Relevant certified copies of criminal court orders, if your case was closed. Consult with an immigration attorney about which documents are relevant to your specific situation.



Your ticket or boarding pass.

This information is for general educational purposes only and is not legal advice. If you or anyone you know have concerns about your immigration status and are planning to travel, we strongly encourage you to speak with an immigration attorney before your trip.