

Registering Your Child for School

To enroll your child in school, you will need to bring:

1. Proof of the child's age

(This can be a child's birth certificate from any country, a legal sworn statement by a parent or relative, or old school records)

2. Proof of address

(For example, a lease or utility bill)

3. Child's immunization records

(If necessary, your old school district or a doctor can confirm by telephone that the child is immunized, and then mail the records later)



You are **NOT** required
to show other
documents

The Supreme Court has ruled that all immigrant children can go to school. (*Plyler v. Doe*, 1982)

If you need legal information, contact: Education Law Center (215-238-6970)
General Info: Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians (215-557-2626)

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✓When you enroll your child in a public, charter, or private school, you must also sign a sworn statement about your child's disciplinary record. This statement says whether your child has ever been suspended or expelled from school for certain problems, such as violence.

✓Schools cannot require **ANY OTHER RECORDS**, such as photo identification, Social Security numbers, visa/immigration documents, the reason the child is living with you, or a court order about the child's placement. The new school is responsible for getting the old school records. The old school must send them within 10 days of the new school's request.

✓Schools must enroll the child within 5 business days of receiving the required information. (Schools are **not allowed to refuse** to enroll a child because of a delay in getting old school records, or a school's trouble placing the child, or a limited number of days left in the school year.)

✓Schools **MAY NOT** ask about the immigration status of a child as part of the admission process.

Sources: Pennsylvania State Code, Sec. 11.11; Basic Education Circular, 24 P.S. §13-1301

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