

Attending Schools in the United States

“Attending Schools in the United States” is the second topic in the English Learner Family Tool Kit. This tool kit is meant to support families of English learners (ELs) in the U.S. education system. Each topic has five parts: (1) Overview, (2) Family and Student Rights (3) Questions to Ask School Staff, (4) Tips, and (5) Resources.

Resources

Adult Learning Resource Center. (2012). Enrolling in school. In *A Guide to Your Children’s Schools: A Parent Handbook*, pp. 4-6. Des Moines, IL: Illinois State Board of Education.

Retrieved from <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/PGuide-english.pdf>

This is a guide developed by the state of Illinois to help parents learn how to enroll their child in school. There are some items that are specific to the state, like specific documents needed for proof of residence, but some of the information is more general.

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children’s Services (BRYCS). (2018). Children's Books about the Refugee/Immigrant Experience. Retrieved from <http://dev.brycs.org/clearinghouse/Highlighted-Resources-Children-Books-about-the-Refugee-Immigrant-Experience.cfm>

This website provides titles of books, some in different languages, about coming to the United States and attending school. These books are suitable for students in preschool, as well as elementary, middle, and high school.

International Rescue Committee (2007). *Educational Handbook for Refugee Parents*. Retrieved from <https://brycs.org/clearinghouse/2554/>

This handbook helps families understand schools in the United States. The handbook is available in Burmese, English, French, Somali, and Spanish.

Refugee Center Online. (2018). “Public School in the USA.” Retrieved from <https://therefugeecenter.org/resources/public-school/>

This web page is meant to help new arrivals navigate the public school system, and includes questions and answers about enrollment.

This document contains examples and resource materials that are provided for the user’s convenience. The inclusion of any material is not intended to reflect its importance, nor is it intended to endorse any views expressed, or products or services offered. These materials may contain the views and recommendations of various subject matter experts as well as hypertext links, contact addresses and websites to information created and maintained by other public and private organizations. The opinions expressed in any of these materials do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any outside information included in these materials. Mentions of specific programs or products in these examples are designed to provide clearer understanding and are not meant as endorsements.