

# IDEA COUNCIL

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# UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRATION POLICY & THE LAW

# UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

IDEA Council | March 2026

*University of New Haven*



# IDEA Council Mission Statement

The mission of the **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Council** is to serve as an advisory group to the President and campus community, providing strategic advice and recommendations based on observations, reports, and monitoring concerning diversity on the University of New Haven campus.

The IDEA Council is committed to bringing together students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni of all identities.

These identities—including among others, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, religion, varying physical and mental abilities, marital status, national origin, socioeconomic status, creed, class, age, profession, veteran status, and regional identity—carry socially constructed meaning and value.

[Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access \(IDEA\) Council - University of New Haven](#)

# Understanding Immigration Policy & the Law

## University Resources & Support

### Legal Disclaimer

The materials and external resources shared as part of this presentation are provided for informational purposes only. These resources are publicly available and originate from a variety of organizations and sources. The inclusion of any specific organization, publication, website, or viewpoint does not constitute endorsement, sponsorship, or approval by the University or by any presenter.

The University does not adopt, advocate for, or validate the positions expressed within these external materials. Audience members are encouraged to review all resources critically and consult appropriate legal counsel for guidance regarding specific questions or situations.

This presentation is intended to provide general educational information and does not constitute legal advice.

# What Does the Policy State?

Federal law and campus policies generally distinguish between **PUBLIC** and **NON-PUBLIC** areas.

- **Public areas** (like quads, walkways, publicly accessible lounges) can be accessed by federal officers without campus consent.
- **Non-public areas** (residence halls, offices, classrooms, restricted labs) **cannot** be accessed by ICE without **University Police**.
- All federal enforcement agents must have a **judicial warrant** or **judicial subpoena** to access non-public areas of the University, including DHS and ICE.
- University Police can verify credentials and help determine whether there's a proper judicial warrant.
- University Police cannot detain or arrest someone solely on immigration purpose warrants.

# Campus Protocols Prioritize Rights and Communication

## Connecticut institutions typically emphasize:

- **FERPA protections:** Student educational records can only be disclosed with a **judicial order, subpoena, court order, or student consent.**
- Campus police do not enforce immigration laws, will not ask about immigration status, and will not detain individuals on immigration paperwork alone.
- **Reporting:** Campus police can verify credentials and help determine whether there's a proper judicial warrant. Campus community should contact campus police first.
- **Remain calm and cooperative,** but do not answer immigration-specific questions or hand over protected information without proper legal authority.

# Trust ACT Connecticut

The Trust Act in Connecticut is legislation designed to limit local law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

**For more information on Key Provisions and recent amendments**

[CT.gov](https://www.ct.gov)

[Trust ACT Guidance](#)

# Judicial Warrant and an Administrative Warrant

What's the Difference Between a Judicial Warrant and an Administrative Warrant in Connecticut?

There are two main types of warrants, and the difference comes down to who issues them and what they allow law enforcement to do when issued.

## Judicial Warrant

### Issuing authority

By a Judge

### Common use

It gives police the legal authority to do things like search a place, arrest someone, or take certain evidence

### Legal basis

Issued when there is enough evidence to establish “probable cause” to support the request.

### Privacy protections

Stronger constitutional safeguards against unreasonable searches and seizures under the Fourth Amendment

## Administrative Warrant

This type of warrant is issued by a government agency, not a judge. Agency official (e.g., ICE, DHS)

Non-Criminal matters, such as Immigration enforcement and certain administrative matters.

Agency authority under immigration or administrative law

It does not give the same level of authority as a judicial warrant and an administrative arrest warrant or a warrant of removal, does not grant ICE permission to enter or search your home.

<https://www.aclusc.org/immigration-enforcement-administrative-vs-judicial-warrants/>

# Important Reminders

## If you encounter an ICE agent in person on a campus:

### DO

- Ask to see identification and request that they wait in a public area while campus authorities are contacted.
- **Call University Police. Do not allow entry to a building without UPD present.**
- Inform an administrator or supervisor so the situation can be escalated promptly.
- Remain calm and cooperative, but do not answer immigration-specific questions or hand over protected information without proper legal authority.

### DO NOT

- Physically obstruct federal officers carrying out lawful actions.
- Provide student records or personal information without checking for a **judicial warrant (FERPA protects student records)**.
- Try to act as an independent interpreter of law; instead, defer to University Police.

# University Support

## Student Support Resources:

- For overall support contact the Dean of Students Office at [deanofstudents@newhaven.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@newhaven.edu)
- Counseling and wellbeing resources (available in-person or via Zoom):
  - [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)  
Charger Plaza, Building. B, Suite 111
  - Walk-In Hours Available M-Th 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and F 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
  - CAPS is available for 24/7 Crisis Support at (203) 932.7333

## Spiritual Support

- For spiritual support contact the Myatt Center at [cdi@newhaven.edu](mailto:cdi@newhaven.edu)
- [Spiritual Life & Campus Ministry - University of New Haven](#)

## University Police

- Students can contact UPD (24-hours a day). Will contact the Dean of Students immediately.
- University of New Haven Police: (203) 932-7014
- University of New Haven Police Emergency: (203) 932-7070

# University Support

## International Students

- **University Immigration Services**
- UIS is located in the One Stop in Bergami Hall
- [UIS@newhaven.edu](mailto:UIS@newhaven.edu)
- (203) 932-7475

## Dean of Students Office

- [DeanofStudents@newhaven.edu](mailto:DeanofStudents@newhaven.edu)
- (203) 932-7432

## For Employees:

- The Employee Assistant Program (EAP) on myCharger.
  - <https://mycharger.newhaven.edu/employee-assistance-program/>

## University Police Department:

- Students can contact UPD (24-hours a day).
  - Non-Emergency Line: (203) 932-7014
  - Emergency: (203) 932-7070 or 911

**LiveSafe App** [Info and Download](#)

# Other Resources

## **Know Your Rights' Flyer, 2021**

Immigrant Defense Project

English: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:1800bbac-0f9d-47a0-aae7-d0ebcd945a44>

Spanish: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:9b6f1915-fe6d-4096-b6fb-3df5efcd6e9c>

## **Know Your Rights Resources, 2025**

[Know Your Rights: Immigrants' Rights - ACLU of Connecticut](#)

## **ICE Guidance for Connecticut Schools, Jan 2025**

ACLU Connecticut (K-12 focus but has valuable information)

<https://www.acluct.org/news/ice-guidance-connecticut-schools/>

## **FAQ Immigration Enforcement on Campuses: What You Need to Know, Feb 2025**

President's Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration, Cornell Law School, and PENN State Center for Immigrants' Rights Clinic

<https://www.presidentsalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/FAQs-ICE-Enforcement-on-Campuses-Feb-2025.pdf>

# University's Statement on Institutional Voice

The University of New Haven's leadership recognizes that these are complicated times in higher education. Notwithstanding, we remain profoundly committed to deliver on our mission. Our mission is to prepare students to lead purposeful and fulfilling lives in a global society by providing the highest-quality education through experiential, collaborative, and discovery-based learning. This charge is deeply personal to each and every one of us – as it is the focus of the institution to provide an unprecedented return on investment for its students.

In the matter of institutional voice, the University of New Haven is committed to a core notion of the human good. Given its educational and transformational mission, there will be circumstances when the University cannot remain neutral. We will exercise our public voice – sparingly and exclusively – in defense of the human good and, conversely, in denouncing actions that violate our common humanity.

This commitment is neither partisan nor restrictive of academic freedom. Instead, it marks an acknowledgement of an essential set of values – such as respect for others and a spirit of openness and embedded generosity that welcomes and encourages different opinions, perspectives, and criticisms. These values condition the University's mission of preparing students to lead purposeful and fulfilling lives in a global society.

True to its mission and embedded can-do spirit, the University of New Haven will focus on educating students to address complex problems and contested topics with an eye toward solutions and a brighter future for all.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT**

**[IDEACOUNCIL@NEWHAVEN.EDU](mailto:IDEACOUNCIL@NEWHAVEN.EDU)**

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