



Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Seattle is a Welcoming City

We believe in inclusion and equity. City employees do not ask about citizenship status and serve all residents regardless of immigration status. Immigrants and refugees are welcome here.

About Us

Our mission is to improve the lives of Seattle's immigrant and refugee families.

We work to strengthen immigrant and refugee communities, by engaging them in decisions about the City of Seattle's future and improving the City's programs and services to meet the needs of all constituents.

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Ethnic Media Program

OIRA assists City departments in developing comprehensive outreach campaigns, which include media that serves immigrant and refugee communities. OIRA also ensures ethnic media outlets have equitable access to the latest information from the City. More at: seattle.gov/iandraffairs/EMP.

Immigrant Family Institute (IFI)

IFI is an innovative program designed to build understanding and trust between Seattle refugee communities and the Seattle Police Department (SPD). This yearly curriculum helps build skills and civic knowledge for refugee/immigrant families while increasing the cultural competency of the participating SPD officers. More at: seattle.gov/iandraffairs/IFI.

Language Access Program

The goal of our Language Access Program is to ensure City departments serve all residents regardless of the language they speak. This includes providing interpretation services, translating vital documents/outreach materials, and simplifying access. All relevant City departments are required to have a language access plan. More at: seattle.gov/iandraffairs/LA.

Legal Defense Network

If you or someone you know received a notice from immigration court or has been detained by ICE and is unable to pay for immigration legal services, the Seattle-King County Immigrant Legal

Defense Network may be able to help. To qualify, you must also live or work in the City of Seattle or live in King County. More at: seattle.gov/LDN.

New Citizen Campaign (NCC)

NCC makes citizenship assistance more accessible to larger numbers of eligible Seattle residents through large-scale naturalization assistance events, public awareness campaigns, and partnerships with credit unions to offer citizenship loans. Part of NCC, the **New Citizen Program (NCP)** funds 12 community-based organizations offering citizenship classes and one-on-one assistance. More at: seattle.gov/iandraffairs/NCC.

Ready to Work (RTW)

RTW is a partnership with community organizations across the city offering classes to better serve residents facing immense barriers to learning English and gaining employment. This community-based program combines English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, computer and financial literacy, job training, and culturally competent case management. More at: seattle.gov/iandraffairs/RTW.

Seattle Votes (SV)

SV is our community outreach and engagement campaign to identify and better document the barriers to civic engagement for Seattle's immigrant and refugee residents. More at: seattle.gov/seattlevotes.