



Family Preparedness Plan

Every family should have a Family Preparedness Plan. While it is our hope that you never have to use your plan, it is a good practice to have one in place to help reduce the stress of the unexpected. This packet will help everyone create a Family Preparedness Plan, regardless of immigration status. However, because of the additional challenges immigrant and mixed status families face, we also have additional advice for immigrants.

➤ Make a Child Care Plan

Have a plan so that a trusted adult can care for your child if you cannot. This plan should include emergency numbers, a list of important contact information, a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit and a file with important documents. This packet includes templates to put together these documents.

➤ Find Out About Your Immigration Options

Information and resources to find good immigration legal help is included in this packet.

- If you have a green card, find out if you can become a U.S. citizen.
- If you are here on a visa, find out if you can get a green card.
- If you do not have immigration status, find out if you may be eligible to get a green card, visa or work permit.
- If you have a criminal arrest or conviction, find out how it might affect your situation, or if there is a way to erase it from your record.
- If you are detained or put into deportation proceedings, ask for a hearing in front of a judge to get out of detention and to fight your deportation.

➤ Know Your Rights

Everyone – both documented and undocumented persons – have rights in this country. Make sure you, your family members (even children), housemates, neighbors, and co-workers, regardless of their immigration status, know of their right to remain silent and all of their other rights if ICE or the police come to your home, neighborhood or workplace. A list of these rights, and a card asserting these rights, are included in this packet.

Child Care Plan

☞ Talk to Your Children About Your Plan

Without worrying them, assure your children that they will be taken care of if for some reason you are unable to care for them, even for a short period of time. Let them know who will care for them until you can.

☞ Decide Who Can Care for Your Children if You Are Unable To

Talk to the people you would want to care for your children if you are unable to and make sure they know they will be listed as emergency contacts. Memorize their phone numbers and have your children memorize them too.

Make sure your children know who can pick them from up school, who cannot pick them up from school, and who will care for them.

Your child's school may only release your child to adults you designate. Therefore, make sure to regularly update all school, afterschool, day care, summer camp, and other programs' emergency contact sheets and release forms to include the names of those who can and cannot pick up your children. If you have a restraining order against anyone, make sure to give a copy of it to the school.

Make sure the people who can pick up and care for your children are up to date on your child's location and school.

☞ Write Down Instructions if Your Child Has Any Medical Conditions and /or Takes Any Medications

Make sure to write down any medical conditions or allergies your child has, any medications that your child takes, as well as doctor and health insurance information. Keep a copy of this information in your important documents file. Give a copy to your child's school and the adult you designate to care for your children. Let your child know where to find this information if you are not around.

☞ Have a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit Signed

A Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit is a form to give to your child's school or health care provider so a non-parent relative can enroll your child in public school, make school-related medical decisions, and make other important decisions on your child's behalf if you are unable to. It allows non-relatives to enroll your child in school and to receive school-related medical treatment. A template is in this packet. A Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit does not affect your rights as your child's parent – you still have custody and control of your child.

➤ Make Sure Your Children All Have Passports

If your child was born in the United States, visit www.travel.state.gov for more information on obtaining a U.S. passport.

If your child was born in your home country, check with your embassy or consulate for more information on obtaining a passport.

➤ Inform Your Family and Emergency Contacts About How to Find You if You Are Detained by ICE

Family members can use the ICE detainee locator: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>. Be sure your family and emergency contacts have a copy of your A-Number (your alien registration number found on your immigration documents from ICE) if you have one.

Want to Do Even More?

You can designate and document someone you trust with **Power of Attorney** to make financial, legal or child care decisions in your absence. You can designate this person to care for your children; to make decisions for your children; to handle your finances; to manage business decisions; to use your money to pay your rent or mortgage or to pay for your legal and other expenses. A power of attorney for your child allows you to designate another adult to make decisions for your child. It is temporary and does not require you to give up your parental or custodial rights.

You can also **register your child's birth** with your country's government (for example, with your country's consulate) if your child was born in the United States. This may grant your child benefits, including citizenship in your home country in some cases.

Important Children's Information

Keep this information so those you designate to care for your children in your absence have all of the information they need.

Child's Name	
Date of Birth	
Child's Cell Phone Number (if applicable)	
School	
School Address	
School Phone Number	
Teacher's Name	
Classroom Number	
Afterschool Program	
Afterschool Program Phone Number	
Other Camp/Sports/Program	
Other Camp/Sports/Program Phone Number	
Allergies	
Medical conditions	
Medications	
Doctor's Phone Number	
Doctor's Address	
Health Insurance	

Emergency Numbers and Important Contact Information

Keep this information in one place so that you and your family can access it easily.

Emergency Numbers	
Immediate Emergency	911
Police Department	
Fire Department	
Poison Control	
Family Contacts	
Mother/Parent/Guardian	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	
Work Address	
Work Phone	
Father/Parent/Guardian	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	

Work Address	
Work Phone	
Other Emergency Contact and Relationship	
Cell Phone	
Other Emergency Contact and Relationship	
Cell Phone	
Other Emergency Contacts and Relationship	
Cell Phone	

Miscellaneous Contacts	
Doctor	
Phone Number	
Health Insurance Company	
Policy Number	
Pediatrician	
Phone Number	
Health Insurance Company	
Policy Number	
Dentist	
Phone Number	
Dental Insurance Company	
Policy Number	
Car Make/Model	
License Plate Number	
Car Insurance Company	
Insurance Policy Number	
Phone Number	
Consulate	
Address	
Phone Number	
Attorney/Nonprofit Legal Services Provider	
Address	
Phone Number	

File of Important Documents

Keep a file of all of these documents or a copy of these documents in a safe place. Tell your children, family members and emergency caregiver where to find this file in an emergency.

- Passports
- Birth Certificates
- Marriage License (if applicable)
- Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit
- Any Restraining Orders you may have against anyone (if applicable)
- A-Number and any immigration documents (work permit, green card, visa, etc.)
- Driver's License and/or Other Identification Cards
- Social Security Card or ITIN number
- Registry of birth (for U.S. born children registered in parent's home country)(if applicable)
- Important Children's Information
- Emergency Numbers and Important Contact Information
- Children(s)' Medical Information, including health insurance, medication list, and doctor's contact information
- Any other documents you would want to be able to quickly find

CAREGIVER AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 201F

1. AUTHORIZING PARTY (Parent/Guardian)

I, _____, residing at _____

am: (circle one) the parent legal guardian legal custodian of the minor child(ren) listed below.

I do hereby authorize _____, residing at _____ to exercise concurrently the rights and responsibilities, except those prohibited below, that I possess relative to the education and health care of the minor children whose names and dates of birth are:

_____	_____	_____	_____
name	date of birth	name	date of birth
_____	_____	_____	_____
name	date of birth	name	date of birth

The caregiver may NOT do the following: (If there are any specific acts you do not want the caregiver to perform, please state those acts here.)

The following statements are true: *(Please read)*

- There are no court orders in effect that would prohibit me from exercising or conferring the rights and responsibilities that I wish to confer upon the caregiver. *(If you are the legal guardian or custodian, attach the court order appointing you.)*
- I am not using this affidavit to circumvent any state or federal law, for the purposes of attendance at a particular school, or to re-confer rights to a caregiver from whom those rights have been removed by a court of law.
- I confer these rights and responsibilities freely and knowingly in order to provide for the child(ren) and not as a result of pressure, threats or payments by any person or agency.
- I understand that, if the affidavit is amended or revoked, I must provide the amended affidavit or revocation to all parties to whom I have provided this affidavit.

This document shall remain in effect until _____ *(not more than two years from today)* or until I notify the caregiver in writing that I have amended or revoked it.

I hereby affirm that the above statements are true, under pains and penalties of perjury.

Signature: _____
Printed name: _____
Telephone number: _____

2. WITNESSES TO AUTHORIZING PARTY SIGNATURE

(To be signed by persons over the age of 18 who are not the designated caregiver.)

Witness #1 Signature

Witness #2 Signature

Printed Name, Address and Telephone

Printed Name, Address and Telephone

3. NOTARIZATION OF AUTHORIZING PARTY'S SIGNATURE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

_____, ss

On this date, _____, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared _____, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was _____, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding document, and swore under the pains and penalties of perjury that the foregoing statements are true.

Signature and seal of notary: _____

Printed name of notary: _____

My commission expires: _____

4. CAREGIVER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, _____, am at least 18 years of age and the above child(ren) currently reside with me at _____.

I am the children's *(state your relationship to the child)* _____.

I understand that I may, without obtaining further consent from a parent, legal custodian or legal guardian of the child(ren), exercise concurrent rights and responsibilities relative to the education and health care of the child(ren), except those rights and responsibilities prohibited above. However, I may not knowingly make a decision that conflicts with the decision of the child(ren)'s parent, legal guardian or legal custodian.

I understand that, if the affidavit is amended or revoked, I must provide the amended affidavit or revocation to all parties to whom I have provided this affidavit prior to further exercising any rights or responsibilities under the affidavit.

I hereby affirm that the above statements are true, under pains and penalties of perjury.

Signature of caregiver: _____

Printed name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Date: _____

