



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS BEFORE YOU “SELF DEPORT”

All people in the United States, *including undocumented immigrants*, have constitutional rights and protections. Neither immigration nor the police will assume you want to exercise your rights. You are in charge of asserting them by showing your Know Your Rights card or by telling the officer you are exercising your rights.

In May 2025, the Trump administration announced a new process for immigrants who choose to leave the United States “voluntarily and permanently.” The program is available through a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) app called “CBP Home.” Note, however, that departing the United States, especially while already in removal proceedings, can have adverse impacts on your ability to return to the United States and pursue certain forms of relief. Much of the information being provided by the government about this program is misleading or inaccurate. Please exercise caution and understand your rights!

## Talk to a qualified person before you download or sign up through the app

If you are interested in leaving the United States, **DO NOT SIGN UP** unless you have spoken to an immigration attorney or fully accredited representative about your options. Leaving the United States may make you ineligible for some types of immigration relief. You also may be temporarily or permanently barred from returning to the United States if you leave. If you are in removal proceedings and you depart the United States without receiving voluntary departure from an immigration judge, you may be issued an order of removal in your absence that can make it very difficult to return. The announcements for this program state that people who do not depart will not be eligible for immigration status. **However, this is not true in many cases!** There are ways to obtain immigration status without leaving the United States. If you do qualify for an immigration status here, you may give up the chance to seek this status by leaving.

## Self-deportation is not always safe.

ICE claims that you will be able to return to your country safely. The U.S. government, however, cannot guarantee your safety once you leave the country.

## The “Self-Deportation” program is not available to all immigrants.

Two groups of immigrants qualify for this program: (1) those who have encountered CBP in the past, and (2) individuals who entered through a country-specific parole program, including programs for Ukrainians, Afghans, Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans. If you are not a member of either of these groups, you will not be eligible for this program. Signing up for this program requires you to give your information to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). If you are not eligible for the program, you may be at even greater risk of ICE enforcement if you sign up through the app.

## You have the right to remain in the country while your case is pending.

If you have an immigration case pending before the immigration court or the Board of Immigration Appeals, you will not be removed by ICE. You have the right to remain in the United States while your case is pending. If you leave the United States before your case is complete, an immigration judge may order you deported. This could make it more difficult to return to the United States.