



Cooperative Extension's Outline of Policies on Unauthorized Immigrants Participating in our Programs

Recently, questions and concerns have been raised about our outreach efforts to minority audiences following the arrests of unauthorized immigrants working in the dairy industry.

Cooperative Extension offers educational programs for youth, individuals, families, businesses, farms, and communities. We partner with local neighborhoods, communities, tribes, counties, and state and federal agencies to teach, learn, lead, and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin's knowledge and research. Our educational resources are available to all Wisconsin residents and reflect the rich diversity of our state.

We value inclusiveness and recognize, appreciate, and honor the differences, similarities, and contributions of all people and communities. We are intentional in our efforts to ensure equity, justice, and fairness. As a recipient of federal funds, we comply with federal civil rights, equal opportunity, and nondiscrimination laws. Our partnership with USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), requires us to ensure our extension programs comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and does not deny access to our programs based on a protected status, such as national origin.

Because of the concerns that have been raised, we want to outline our policies that may affect program participants. They are intended to clarify and guide faculty and staff when questions or concerns about immigrant status arise for program participants and their families:

1. Cooperative Extension will never voluntarily release participant information that is protected under the right to privacy provisions of the Fourth Amendment unless required to do so under a subpoena or other legal process.
2. Cooperative Extension will not collect information on immigration status of program participants unless required to do so under force of law.
3. Cooperative Extension staff are not authorized to, nor will participate in immigration enforcement actions conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers (ICE). Our resources are limited and such enforcement is not part of Cooperative Extension's mission.
4. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers must use appropriate legal processes if they wish to contact individual program participants about enforcement-related issues.

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An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.