



Why does legal representation need to be available for everyone?

We should all get fair and dignified treatment under the law. Universal legal representation allows all immigrants in detention proceedings to be represented by an attorney.

5 Facts About Immigration Proceedings in Colorado

- 1 Universal representation promotes due process and dignity and results in better outcomes. Immigrants with a lawyer are up to **ten times more likely** to establish a right to remain in the US.
- 2 In 2019, Colorado received nearly **8,500** immigration deportation court matters.
- 3 Nearly **6 out of 10** immigrants in these cases lacked access to legal representation.
- 4 An equitable system that reduces lengthy detentions and deportations would save Colorado up to **\$18.6 million** in economic costs.



DEFENDING DIGNITY

WHY UNIVERSAL LEGAL REPRESENTATION MATTERS FOR ALL



A recent report by the Colorado Fiscal Institute (CFI) found that in addition to the negative emotional and mental effects of detention and deportation on individuals and families, the direct and indirect effects also harm employers, communities, and Colorado's economy.

The Economic Costs of Not Providing Universal Representation



Colorado immigrant families lose **\$3.9 million** in wages when a breadwinner is detained.



State and local governments lose **\$350,000** in tax revenue due to lack of representation for immigrants.



Employers shoulder nearly **\$12 million** in turnover costs as they struggle to replace detained or deported workers.



Colorado could save **\$18.6 million** under a universal representation model.