

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · FORT LAUDERDALE

Fort Lauderdale School Enrollment Guide 2026 (Broward County Public Schools)

Enrollment steps from Pre-K to high school, the two-column proof-of-residence rule, immunization and exam requirements, and notes for newcomer families.

SHORT ANSWER

To enroll in Broward County Public Schools you contact your child's zoned school directly; you find it with the "Find My School" tool using your street address and grade. You need a birth certificate, one proof of residence from each of two columns, a physical exam from the past 12 months and a Florida immunization form (DH 680). Staff may not ask for a passport, visa or other document to verify immigration status, and under Florida law an SSN is not a condition of enrollment. District office: 600 SE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, phone 754-321-0000.

Step by step

- 1 Gather the documents (checklist below).
- 2 Use the district's "Find My School" tool to find your zoned school from your street address and your child's grade.
- 3 Contact the school directly; Broward asks families to enroll through the school. Registration forms are in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole and Portuguese; there is no Turkish form.
- 4 Complete the registration form, the emergency contacts form and, if it applies, the shared housing form, and turn them in with your documents.

Document checklist

DOCUMENT	NOTES
☐ Proof of age	A birth certificate first; if you do not have one, options include a passport, an insurance policy, a school transcript or a sworn affidavit
☐ Proof of residence, Column A (ownership or lease)	Property tax bill, deed, mortgage statement, purchase contract, a properly notarized lease, or a current rent receipt
☐ Proof of residence, Column B	Utility bill, home or cell phone bill, Florida driver license or ID, auto registration or insurance, credit card statement, or two consecutive bank statements

DOCUMENT	NOTES
☐ Physical exam	Completed within 12 months before first Florida enrollment
☐ Florida Certification of Immunization or exemption (Form DH 680)	Temporary exemptions exist for interstate transfers and for homeless and military children
☐ School records (if applicable)	Latest report card or transcript; the school requests prior records, and you can also sign a release-of-information form

This checklist is drawn from the district's registration page (2026/27 school year); confirm your school's current requirements before you enroll. Documents must be current and show the enrollment address. A student enrolled with false address information can be withdrawn, and a false written statement can be a crime, so give your address accurately.

Under Fla. Stat. 1008.386, school districts request a Social Security number at enrollment, but a student is not required to provide one as a condition of enrollment or graduation. The school cannot refuse enrollment because you do not give an SSN; the district uses a state-assigned Florida student identification number, not the SSN, as the student ID.

IF YOU RENT: TIPS FOR PROOF OF RESIDENCE

- Since March 1, 2026, only the property owner can open a new water, sewer and trash account in the city of Fort Lauderdale, so your bill may not be in your name. For Column B, a phone bill, two bank statements or a Florida ID also count.
- If you share a home, both you and the owner or renter sign a notarized Affidavit of Shared Residence; the owner brings Column A and Column B documents and you bring two Column B documents.
- Families experiencing homelessness are covered by McKinney-Vento, and the district has a separate team for them.

For newcomer families

We did not find a separate international welcome center or ESOL intake site on the Broward County Public Schools registration page; for English-language support and placement, talk to your school or the district office (754-321-0000). The Home Language Survey completed at registration triggers English-proficiency screening within the first 20 days if a language other than English is spoken at home. It is not a penalty; it routes your child to support programs.

Immunizations and the health department

The immunization certificate (DH 680) is issued by a Florida doctor or the county health department. The Florida Department of Health in Broward's Fort Lauderdale Health Center (2421 SW 6th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315) offers child and adult vaccines; immunization line 954-467-4705. Bring a photo ID and all previous immunization records; an English translation of your child's Turkish vaccination record helps.

Free preschool: VPK

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) is free for Florida children who turn 4 on or before September 1 of that year. You get the Certificate of Eligibility from your county's Early Learning Coalition; every Florida county has its own. Seats are limited, so apply early.

YOUR RIGHTS AS AN IMMIGRANT FAMILY

- An SSN is not a condition of enrollment or graduation (Fla. Stat. 1008.386). The U.S. Constitution, under the Supreme Court's Plyler v. Doe decision, also requires public schools to admit children regardless of immigration status.
- According to the Broward County Public Schools registration page, staff may not, under any circumstances, request a passport, visa or other document to verify a student's immigration status. A passport is only one of the accepted proofs of age.
- If you are missing a document, call your school or the district office before you enroll: 754-321-0000.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN FORT LAUDERDALE

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Fort Lauderdale and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

Attorney advertising. This guide is general information only. It is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Information compiled from official sources as of September 29, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act. Reading this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Latest version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/fort-lauderdale-immigration-attorney