

Town of Mansfield Policy Regarding Undocumented Immigrants

Approved by Council on February 14, 2107

Approved for inclusion in the Town Council's Policy Index

Mansfield is rooted in immigration, from our founding in 1702 to the present day, with thousands of residents and a community that includes University of Connecticut students, faculty, and staff. In particular, Mansfield is currently home to a number of people attending college who are undocumented immigrants brought here as young children, attending school through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) policy and related Connecticut State law. Mansfield is also home to hundreds of people who were born in countries around the world who are refugees, permanent residents, people who possess temporary work or student visas, and United States citizens. The Town of Mansfield has long celebrated and depended on this diversity for its strength and vibrancy.

Set forth in more detail below, it shall be the policy of the Town of Mansfield that all people are free and welcome to use public services, including police, fire and EMS, without fear that they will be questioned about their immigration status or that services will be denied because of that status.

This policy is in full compliance with current state and federal law and does not ask any Town employee or resident to violate any law. Mansfield receives police services from the Connecticut State Police, for which the Town Council does not set policy. The Connecticut State Police are governed by State law, including Connecticut General Statutes §54-192h, also known as the "TRUST Act."

It shall be the policy of the Town of Mansfield that:

1. Any service provided by the Town of Mansfield to its residents or others shall be made available without regard to immigration status, unless required by law.
2. No Town of Mansfield official, employee or agent shall request information concerning a person's immigration status, except when required to do so by state or federal law. Some noted exceptions include applications for employment, which is restricted to those in possession of a temporary work visa, permanent residents, and citizens; and, an application to become an elector, which is restricted to citizens.
3. No Town of Mansfield official, employee or agent shall disclose information regarding a person's immigration status unless required to do so by law.
4. The Town Manager shall review all applications, questionnaires and forms which require disclosure of citizenship or immigration status, and any questions regarding citizenship or immigration status other than those required by state or federal law shall be deleted.

5. The Town of Mansfield expects its Resident State Trooper and other members of the Connecticut State Police patrolling the Town of Mansfield to comply with all provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §54-192h, as it may be amended. The Town requests that its Resident State Troopers and other members of the Connecticut State Police patrolling the Town of Mansfield be guided by Town policy when using their discretion in accordance with §54-192h.