

Self-Deportation Fact Sheet



If you're illegally present in the U.S., you don't have to — and shouldn't — wait for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to arrest you. **Instead, you can leave on your own terms.**

What is Self-Deportation?

Self-deportation is the act of leaving the U.S. on your own initiative when you're **illegally present**.

Who's Illegally Present in the U.S.?

If you're in the U.S. **for any period of time** — an hour, a month or 50 years — without being admitted or paroled, or for any length of time after your authorized period of stay expires, you're illegally present.

Why Should You Self-Deport?

You should self-deport because you:

- Get to leave on your own terms.
- Don't necessarily have to go back to your home country.
- Won't have a chance to gather your belongings or say goodbye if ICE arrests you.

What if You Don't Self-Deport?

If you don't self-deport, it's not a matter of if ICE finds you. **It's a matter of when.** Thousands of federal law enforcement officials are working together to find illegally present aliens.

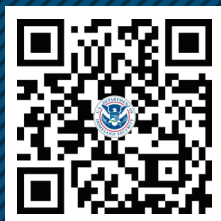
ICE will put you in a detention facility. Some people remain in detention for months.



If ICE removes you, the U.S. government can bar you from returning, even for a short visit.



ICE



Learn more at:
[ICE.gov/self-deportation](https://ice.gov/self-deportation)