INFOGRAPHIC 01 · IMMIGRATION BAIL BONDS

The Immigration Bond Process

Detained → Located → Bond decided → Bond posted → Released → Every hearing.

1

Detained

ICE takes the person into custody and places them at a detention facility.

→

2

Locate

Search the ICE Online Detainee Locator by A-Number or exact name and country of birth.

→

3

Bond decision

ICE may set a bond. If not, an immigration judge may set one at a bond hearing.

→

4

Post the bond

Pay the full amount to ICE (cash bond), or use a surety bond through a licensed agent.

→

5

Release

ICE processes the release and decides when and where it happens.

→

6

Every hearing

The person attends all court dates and check-ins. When the case ends, the bond is cancelled.

AT THE BOND-DECISION STEP, OTHER OUTCOMES ARE POSSIBLE

Bond set

An amount is set on Form I-352. Federal law sets a minimum of $1,500 for delivery bonds.

Released on conditions

Release without a bond, such as recognizance or conditional parole, sometimes with check-ins.

No bond

Mandatory detention rules or a denial can mean no bond. An attorney can explain options.

IF A HEARING IS MISSED → ICE can declare the bond breached. A cash bond can be lost, and a surety agreement and collateral can be triggered.

WHEN THE CASE ENDS → the bond is cancelled. Cash bonds are refunded to the obligor. A surety premium is not refunded.

Questions about an immigration bond?

Call **(888) 845-8806** · 24/7 · English, Español, Հայերեն

Educational only. Not legal advice. Not a law firm. Not affiliated with ICE, DHS, CBP, EOIR, USCIS, or any court. Bond eligibility, amounts and conditions are set by ICE or an immigration judge. No outcome is guaranteed. Last reviewed November 3, 2026.

Sources: ICE, Post a Bond (ice.gov/detain/detention-management/bonds); ICE Form I-352; 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a); ICE Online Detainee Locator (locator.ice.gov).

Source: ImmigrationBailBonds.bond · immigrationbailbonds.bond/infographics/immigration-bond-process