A child is apprehended by border patrol between U.S. ports of entry

A child presents at a U.S. port of entry

Initial processing by DHS

The child is accompanied by parent or legal guardian

The child is unaccompanied by parent or legal guardian

Subject to expedited removal with family

Subject to removal proceedings as a family

DHS screens the child for credible fear of persecution

If credible fear found

Credible fear of persecution screening

The child can file for immigration relief:
- Asylum
- SIJS
- U visa
- T visa

The child goes through removal proceedings before EOIR

The child is not Mexican or Canadian

The child is Mexican or Canadian

DHS screens the child for trafficking and persecution

SIMULTANEOUS PROCESSES

The child is transferred to ORR custody (different placement types depending on the child’s needs)

The child receives Know Your Rights (KYR) presentation

The child is released on their own

The child is transferred to post-18 placement

The child is placed in ICE adult detention

The child is released to sponsor

The child is released to their own

The child turns 18 years old

The child does not consent; possible trafficking victim; credible fear of persecution

The child is permitted to stay in the U.S.

Removal order returned to country of origin

Voluntary departure returned to country of origin

Termination proceeding

Immigration case outcome

Immigration relief granted

Removal order returned to country of origin

Voluntary departure returned to country of origin

Termination proceeding

*Last updated in December 2022