

DREAM Student Resource Guide

**Information and resources for undocumented students, HCF staff,
mentors, counselors, community members, and DREAM Act
advocates**

The Hispanic College Fund (HCF) is a non-profit with a national office in Washington DC and local offices in Dallas, TX, Los Angeles, CA, Albuquerque, NW, Phoenix, AZ, Towson, MD Petersburg, VA, Fresno, CA and Santa Clara, CA. Our mission is “Promising youth. Promising professionals. A stronger America.” The purpose of this resource guide is to empower our students, staff, volunteers, and community members with topics related to undocumented students such as the DREAM Act, government policies regarding in-state tuition, financial aid, college application process, and scholarships. We hope you find this guide helpful! Feel free to share it with friends, family, co-workers, other volunteers and members in the community. If you have any questions, suggestions, or want more resources please contact Stina Augustsson at saugustsson@hispanicfund.org.

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It's Possible!

Although, financing higher education is hard it is not impossible; many undocumented students have found ways to finance undergraduate school, graduate school, law school, and medical school. For inspiration or tips visit: <http://institute.hispanicyouth.org/media/docs/DREAM%20Act%20Student%20Resources.pdf>.

Undocumented Students Background

The United States 2000 Census estimated 2.5 million undocumented youth live in the United States.¹ Every year 65,000 undocumented youth graduate from high school. Undocumented students face challenges such as not being to vote, drive, work, and in some states they are prohibited from receiving state funded financial aid for college. **Undocumented students can go to college** however they face challenges navigating the path towards higher education. Undocumented students are not US citizens, refugees, under asylum, or permanent residents; they may have entered the United States legally or illegally. Many of them come to the United States at a young age. The process for permanent residency is long, it can take ten to twenty years to receive residency. (The faster track to residency is if an undocumented student marries a US citizen but to many students this is not an option.) In addition, obtaining residency is expensive. The process requires attorney visits and forms filed through the US Citizenship and Immigration Services under US Department of Homeland Security. This can add up to a few thousands of dollars per person. At the moment, it is very hard for undocumented students to apply residency.

What is the DREAM Act?

The DREAM Act or Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act would provide undocumented students a pathway to citizenship.² The DREAM Act would provide “conditional residency” to students who entered the United States after they were 16 years old and graduated high school. After studying in a community

¹ Oliverez, P. M. (Unknown). *Serving the Needs of Undocumented AB 540 Students: What College Access Professionals Should Know (and Do)*. Retrieved on October 15, 2010 from http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:5dbE2MVOVN0J:www.calgrants.org/index.cfm%3Fnavid%3D211+Serving+the+Needs+of+Undocumented+AB+540+Students:&hl=en&gl=us&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEESH5IGbe-kRRaXFbVEqzklX2wiAJxQQLqdHK8uRQzgjNhg0-WtvY_H9VFsGQK7QJDT8o0BMW2YrtTBOrQXADX4nhe0MSO9wFJMjeJKMDM-Tr0JzYM3ocGteboMieWdGk_114tnSw&sig=AHIEtbQNFVMWzVTDfewbj67s1eTLLoe_Uw

² Dream Act Portal. (Date Unknown). *The Dream Act. Dream Act Portal*. Retrieved on October 25, 2010 from <http://dreamact.info/>

college/university for two years or serving in the military for two years they would be placed in the path to citizenship.³

Some of the myths regarding the DREAM Act is undocumented students would take college seats away from American citizens. In response Arizona Dream Act Coalition reminds us that there is no “limited seating” in universities. The DREAM Act would not encourage illegal immigration because students who benefit from the DREAM Act have lived in the United States for at least five years; many of them have lived here since childhood.⁴

Other helpful websites:

“DREAM ACT Advocacy Toolkit”

By Immigrant Legal Resource Center

http://www.ilrc.org/dream_act/pdf/DREAM%20Act%20Advocacy%20Toolkit.pdf

This booklet includes the background about the DREAM Act and commonly asked questions regarding the DREAM Act. The most important aspect of this pamphlet is it can be used as a guide to advocate for the DREAM Act because it includes tips on how to use advocate using online resources, media, community, and writing to legislators.

“The DREAM Act: 2010”

By American Immigration Council and Immigration Policy Center

<http://immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/dream-act-2010>

American Immigration Council and Immigration Policy Center collaborated to create this link, which includes background and facts about the DREAM Act, and economic benefits of the DREAM Act.

In-State Tuition Policies

The ten states that have in-state tuition policies toward undocumented students are: California, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Washington.⁵ In other words, undocumented students living in other states that were not mentioned in the list above do not qualify to get in-state tuition. This does not mean that undocumented students are forbidden from attending public colleges and

³ Texas Dream Act Alliance. (2009). DREAM Act Background. *Texas Dream Act Alliance*. Retrieved on October 26, 2010 from <http://txdreamactalliance.webnode.com/dream-act-background/>

⁴ Arizona Dream Act Coalition. (Date Unknown). The DREAM Act: Fact Check. *Arizona Dream Act Coalition*. Retrieved October 19, 2010 from <http://azdreamactcoalition.weebly.com/fact-check.html>

⁵ CollegeBoard. (Unknown). Advising undocumented Students. *CollegeBoard*. Retrieved November 1, 2010, from <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students>

universities. Undocumented students can and should go to college! We will focus on the policies of the states that have Hispanic Youth Institutes such as Arizona, California, Maryland, New Mexico, Texas, and Virginia.

Arizona, Maryland, and Virginia affirmatively prohibits undocumented immigrants from accessing in-state tuition rates. Students living in Arizona, Maryland, and Virginia are highly encouraged to apply for private scholarships and private colleges that may offer financial aid. California, New Mexico, and Texas have in-state tuition policies for undocumented students.

California's AB 540 exempts undocumented students from paying higher out-of-state tuition costs for UC's, state universities, and community colleges. To qualify for AB 540 students must have attended high school in California for at least three years, graduated from a California high school, and filled out an affidavit.⁶ In order to fill out an affidavit the students must meet all the requirements mentioned above and provide the proper documentation. For more information and an example of an affidavit, which is accepted by UC's, California state universities, and California community colleges visit http://www.csulb.edu/depts/enrollment/assets/pdf/cal_nonres_tuition_exempt.pdf. Also for more information you may visit http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_FinAidGuide.pdf, "Financial Aid Guide for College-Bound Undocumented Students" by Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC).

New Mexico's SB 582 allows undocumented immigrant students to pay in-state tuition fee at public colleges and universities. To access these funds they must meet the following criteria: they must have attended a New Mexico middle or high school for a minimum of a year and have graduated from a New Mexico high school or received a GED in New Mexico.⁷ In addition, they must also submit an affidavit stating they will become legal or permanent resident when it is possible.⁸ Students are also eligible for the New Mexico's Lottery Scholarship program.⁹

Texas' HB 1403/ SB 1528 allows eligible undocumented students the opportunity to receive in-state tuition. Students must meet all of the following requirements to receive in-state tuition under HB 1403: attended Texas high

⁶ AB 540. (2010). Got Papers? Got Dreams? Know That You Can Go To College Regardless of Your Immigration Status. *AB 540*. Retrieved on October 4, 2010 from <http://www.ab540.com/>

⁷ State of New Mexico: Office of the Governor. (2008, April 5). *Governor Richardson Signs Bill Prohibiting Discrimination in Admission and Tuition Policy of New Mexico Post Secondary Educational Institutions Based on Student's Immigration Status*. Santa Fe, NW. Retrieved October 26, 2010 from http://www.governor.state.nm.us/press/2005/april/040805_4.pdf

⁸ Jobs For The Future. (March 2007). *Update: State Policies Regarding In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students*. Retrieved October 26 from http://www.achievingthedream.org/_pdfs/_publicpolicy/UndocImmigUpdate_0307.pdf

⁹ Somos Un Pueblo Unido. (Date Unknown). *Immigrant Students Can Now Afford a Higher Education in New Mexico*. (Brochure). Retrieved on October 26, 2010 from <http://www.somosunpueblounido.org/Derechos/In-state%20Tuition%20and%20Financial%20Aid%20for%20Immigrants.pdf>

school, graduated from a Texas school or receive a GED in Texas, lived in Texas for three years before graduated from high school or received a GED, and submitted an “Affidavit of Intent” to the higher education institutions the student applied to indicating he/she will apply for a permanent residency as soon as they are able to do so.¹⁰ (To get a copy of the “Affidavit of Intent” go to http://www.uta.edu/admissions/content/pdf/sb_1528_affidavit.pdf.) Student must fill out the form, get it signed by a notary public, and submit to colleges of his/her choice. Since undocumented students are not US citizens, permanent residents, refugee, or under asylum they should not fill-out the FAFSA but they must fill out the TASFA to receive state funds such as the Texas Equalization and Opportunities Grant.¹¹ (To get a copy of the TASFA go to <http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=D465D848-EA0F-C0EA-5209BC8C89262877>. Click on the yellow link at the bottom of the page that is titled “2010-2011 TASFA Application.” The document is 19 pages but students only need to fill out and return pages 3-7 to the colleges they are applying to.) Students are recommended to contact the admissions/ registrar’s office of the college or university they are applying to if they have questions about any of the residency requirements.¹² For more information on how to obtain in-state tuition in Texas please visit the Texas Dream Act Alliance’s website <http://txdreamactalliance.webnode.com/obtain-in-state-residency/>

Information for Counselors and Mentors

Many students are not aware of their situation until the end of their high school career when they attempt to get a driving license, work, apply to college or for financial aid. As a result, Oliverez’s encourages counselors to provide information for US citizens and undocumented students because some students are not aware of their situation or are afraid of telling others. It is also important counselors include information about the state policies regarding in-state tuition, provide undocumented students mentoring and encouragement, assist students with the college application process, and the scholarship research and application process. Furthermore, it is also important counselors engage parents in the financial aid and college research process.¹³ The CollegeBoard has more

¹⁰ Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2008). *Overview: Residency and In-State Tuition Retrieved*. October 12, 2010 from <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1528.PDF>

¹¹ Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2010). *College For All Texans: Your Financial Aid Application*. Retrieved October 11, 2010 from <http://www.collegefortexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=D465D848-EA0F-C0EA-5209BC8C89262877>

¹² Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. (Date Unknown). *For Financial Aid Administrators: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about students qualifying for state financial aid under House Bill 1403/Senate Bill 1528*. Retrieved October 12 from <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1181.PDF>

¹³ Oliverez, P. M. (Unknown). *Serving the Needs of Undocumented AB 540 Students: What College Access Professionals Should Know (and Do)*. Retrieved on October 15, 2010 from

information on <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students>.

Other helpful websites:

“How to Support College-Bound Undocumented Students: Advice for Counselors and Educators”

By Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC)

http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_EducatorGuide.pdf

This booklet is for counselors who serve undocumented students. It includes facts on undocumented students, how counselors can help students, background on the California policy toward in-state tuition, and how to support undocumented students throughout the scholarship search.

The Organizations Below Support Undocumented Students

The organizations below provide legal services, financial support, and/ or resources to undocumented students.

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)

<https://www.aaldef.org/>

Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC)

<http://www.apalc.org/>

Catholic Charities

<http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org>

Some local Catholic Charities offices have immigration attorneys that can answer your questions free or at a low cost.

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)

<http://www.chirla.org/>

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute

www.chci.org

http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:5dbE2MVOVN0J:www.calgrants.org/index.cfm%3Fnavid%3D211+Serving+the+Needs+of+Undocumented+AB+540+Students:&hl=en&gl=us&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEESH5IGbe-kRRaXFbVEqzklX2wiAJxQQLqdHK8uRQzgjNhg0-WtvY_H9VFsGQK7QJDT8o0BMW2YrtTBOrQXADX4nhe0MSO9wFJMyeJKMDM-Tr0JzYM3ocGteboMieWdGk_114tnSw&sig=AHIEtbQNFVMWzVTDfewbj67s1eTLLoe_Uw

Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)
www.maldef.org

National Legal Sanctuary for Community Advancement (NLSCA)
<http://nlsca.com/index.htm>

Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF)
<http://www.salef.org/>

Scholarships

Scholarship Guides for Undocumented Students

Arizona Dream Act Coalition

Arizona DREAM Act Coalition Scholarships
<http://azdreamactcoalition.weebly.com/student-resources.html>

This includes links to scholarship lists.

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute

<http://www.chci.org/scholarships/>

You can download the “2008-2009 National Directory of Scholarships, Internships and Fellowships for Latino Youth” which is at the bottom of this webpage page. It includes hundreds of national and regional scholarships, internships, and fellowships. They do not include the requirements to apply for scholarships, internships, or fellowships but you are encouraged to contact the representative of the organization and ask if they accept undocumented students.

Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC)

“Scholarships That Don’t Require Social Security Numbers For Bay Area Immigrant Students”

http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_Scholarships.pdf

This handbook includes a list of scholarships and a list of colleges that offer financial aid to students without SSN.

Hispanic College Fund

Hispanic Youth Institute: College

<http://institute.hispanicyouth.org/helpful-sites/college/>

This has a list of resources on college, financial aid, and scholarships.

Hispanic College Fund: Hispanic Youth Institute

Scholarships

<http://institute.hispanicyouth.org/media/docs/Scholarships%20for%20International%20Students.pdf>

This document includes scholarships and other resources such as foundations and alumni organizations that can help students find scholarships.

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

<http://www.hsf.net/uploadedFiles/Scholarships/scholarships-national.pdf>

Provides a list of scholarships of all Latino students. There list of estimated 25 scholarships for undocumented students is included in pages 8-13.

“Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF) Scholarship List/ Lista de Becas 2009-2010”

http://www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/2010_Scholarship_List.pdf

Search the index of over 60 scholarship opportunities for students regardless of citizenship status.

US Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard

Paying for College Student Resource Guide: Includes scholarships, internships, fellowships, resource books, and websites

<http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWVfbnxsaW5jb2xuY2FyZWVvY2VudGVyfGd4OjVmYjhiZTg2Y2RlMjEyZDE>

This handbook includes over 180 scholarships, internships, and fellowships. They are categorized under the month the application is due.

The Esperanza Education Fund (VA, DC, MD area)

Serves all immigrant students regardless of national origin, ethnicity, and immigration status

www.esperanzafund.org

Scholarship Websites**Fastweb**

www.fastweb.com

Latino College Dollars

Scholarships for Latino Students

Compiled by the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute

<http://www.latinocollegedollars.org/directory.htm>

Some Scholarships

Carolina Enriched Rice, Riceland Foods Inc, Univision Radio, and Mahatma Rice Scholarship
scholarship.carolinarice.com

Chicana / Latina Foundation Scholarship Program
www.chicanalatina.org/scholarship.html

Roothbert Fund Scholarship
www.roothbertfund.org/scholarships.php

Salvadorian American Leadership and Education Fund Website
Two Nineteen Scholarship
http://www.salef.org/salef/fulfilling.html

Univision Exito Escolar Scholarship
http://u.univision.com/contentroot/uol/10portada/sp/pdf/local/NOMETA_03_26_10_Scholarship_App_2010.pdf

General Information

The two resources below are very helpful!!

<http://bit.ly/9xUSgB>
Includes scholarship guides for undocumented students and samples for fundraising portfolios for higher education. The Office of Admissions of Santa Clara University created this database.

Scholarships A-Z
<http://www.scholarshipsaz.org/collateral/resourceguide.pdf>
Comprehensive information such as the background of an undocumented student, advice for counselors working with undocumented students, legal information, financial aid information, and state and federal policies toward undocumented students. Also, we suggest you check out <http://www.scholarshipsaz.org> for more resources.

Universities and Colleges that Provide Financial Aid or Scholarships to Undocumented Students:

The colleges and universities below have awarded scholarships to undocumented and international students who do not have a Social Security Number. For more details contact the admissions and financial aid offices at these schools. Students

must remember to be persistent when searching for ways of financing their higher education including institutional scholarships. The funds for financial assistance and/or scholarships from these universities come from institutional funds therefore they are limited and competitive.¹⁴

- Amherst College (Massachusetts)
- Bard College (New York)
- Bates College (Maine)
- Brown University (Rhode Island)
- Bryn Mawr College (Massachusetts)
- Claremont McKenna College (some full ride scholarships, Claremont, California)
- College of the Holy Cross (Massachusetts)
- Columbia University (New York)
- Cornell University (New York)
- Dartmouth College (New Hampshire)
- Dominican University (River Forest, IL)
- Dominican University of California (San Rafael, California)
- Franklin and Marshall College (Pennsylvania)
- Fresno Pacific University (Fresno, California)
- George Mason University (Washington DC)
- Grinnell College (Iowa)
- Harvard University (Massachusetts)
- Harvey Mudd College (Claremont, California)
- Kalamazoo (Michigan)
- Kenyon College (Ohio)
- Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles, California)
- Oberlin College (Ohio)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Massachusetts)
- Mills College (Oakland, California)
- Montgomery College (Tacoma Park, Maryland)
- Mount Holyoke College (Massachusetts)
- Mount St. Mary's College (Los Angeles, California)
- Northwestern College (St. Paul, Minnesota)
- Occidental College (some one full ride scholarship to an undocumented student, Southern California)
- Pepperdine University (Southern California)
- Pomona College (Claremont, California)
- Princeton University (New Jersey)
- Reed College (Oregon)

¹⁴ The names of colleges and universities were gathered from http://www.e4fc.org/images/E4FC_Scholarships.pdf and personal contacts.

- Santa Clara University (some full ride scholarships called the Hurtado Scholarship Santa Clara, California)
- Stanford University (Stanford, California)
- Swarthmore College (Pennsylvania)
- University of Puget Sound (Washington)
- Wesleyan University (Connecticut)
- Whitman College (Washington)
- Yale University (Connecticut)

If you know of a college that you are interested in but it is not in this list you can contact the admissions or financial aid office. Explain to them your situation. They may be able to help you or guide you to the right person.

GOOD LUCK!!!