

AB 540/ Undocumented Student Resource Guide (CFC Edition)

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The resource guide is a work in progress and a collaboration between the Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis (CHEPA) at the University of Southern California and the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF), and Malou Chavez.

In addition to the contributions by the following organizations:

Coalition for Humane and Immigrant Rights- Los Angeles, East L.A. College, Espiritu de Nuestro Futuro at California State University, Dominguez Hills, IDEAS at the University of California, Los Angeles, LAUSD District 2, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, Marco Antonio Firebaugh Consulting, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) , Santa Monica College, Early Academic Outreach Program at UCLA, Vellanoweth & Gehart, LLP, and many other individuals and organizations.

Section 1: Who are undocumented students?

Undocumented students include those students born outside of the United States, many of whom have lived in this country for a significant portion of their lives, and who reside here without the legal permission of the federal government. Many undocumented students and their families entered the country legally on tourist or work visas and chose to stay in the US after their visas expired. Others entered without any form of documentation.

- The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that in the year 2000, approximately 2.5. million undocumented youth under age 18 were living in the U.S.
- Each year, over 65, 000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools.
- 40% of all undocumented students live in California.
- In 2001, between 5,000-8,000 students in California were eligible for AB540.
- In 2004, 17 California high school Valedictorians were undocumented.
- Many undocumented students were brought to the U.S. at a very young age.
- Many undocumented students have aspirations to attend college.
- Many undocumented students have excelled as honors students, class valedictorians, and active members of their communities.

*****The terms “undocumented students” and “AB 540 students” are used interchangeably throughout this guide.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS:

Q: What does it mean to be undocumented?

A: If you are not a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident and do not currently possess a green card, visa, or other legal documentation, you are considered an undocumented immigrant.

Q: If I am undocumented and interested in applying for residency, what should I do?

A: In order to find out if you are eligible to apply for legal permanent residency, contact a licensed immigration attorney. DO NOT give your money to a “notario.” In the U.S., a notario is not an attorney and cannot help you establish residency.

Q: If I am undocumented, can I go to college?

A: YES. Undocumented students can go to any college or university in California if they meet admissions requirements.

Q: If I am undocumented, can I apply for financial aid?

A: Undocumented students are not eligible for state (CalGrant) and federal (FAFSA) financial aid. Some colleges may offer financial aid to undocumented students, so visit your college's financial aid office to find out.

Q: Where can I go to find out about scholarships for undocumented students?

A: Go to the MALDEF website (www.maldef.org) to find a list of scholarships that do not require you to be a US citizen, legal permanent resident, and do not ask for a social security number.

Q: How do I qualify to pay in-state tuition?

A: In order to qualify for in-state tuition under AB 540, you must have completed 3 years of high school in California and graduate. You must also complete an AB 540 affidavit at the college/university that you will attend, stating that you meet AB 540 eligibility requirements.

Q: Do I need to be in the legalization process to qualify for AB 540?

A: NO, both students that are already in the process and those that are not yet in the process qualify for AB 540. But remember that the affidavit that students sign says that they will start the process as soon as they are eligible to do so.

Q: Can I utilize AB 540 at a private university or technical college like USC, Stanford, Heald College, Bryman College, etc?

A: NO, AB 540 is utilized only by the PUBLIC community colleges and universities in California (CSU/UC), therefore students attending a private institution may be charged the non-resident tuition.

Q: Do adult school students qualify for AB 540?

A: Students who have completed 3 years of adult school or finished their GED through an adult school MAY qualify for AB 540 if the community college they wish to attend considers it equivalent to high school. Check with a representative at your college who is knowledgeable about AB 540 to find out about your college's requirements.

Q: What is the process for applying to college and the university for immigrant students?

A: Students should speak with a college/university representative to receive accurate information about the specific campus. For all UC and most CSU, the student must apply in November of the year before they wish to begin. Two sections must be left blank:

- 1) Social Security Number Slot Should be Left BLANK
- 2) Immigration Status Slot Should be Left BLANK

Everything else should be filled out completely and truthfully. Students should contact a UC representative for specific instructions for completing the UC application as these change from year to year. Additional materials should NOT be sent with the application. Once the student is accepted by the university, then they should fill out and send the AB 540 affidavit. For community colleges, the student must turn in the AB 540 affidavit the when they register for classes.

Q: What happens if I have already given the school a false SS# or stated citizenship?

A: Students who qualify for AB 540 but have falsified information in the past will have to address this issue with the CIS when they apply for LPR. At the school, they should meet with a counselor they trust and change their classification to AB 540. Some campuses penalize the student financially so the student needs to work with a trusted counselor. If transferring from a CC to a CSU or UC, the student should apply under AB 540 even if at the CC they falsified information.

Articles about undocumented students:

Olivas, M.A. (2004). IIRIRA, The DREAM Act, and undocumented college student residency. *Journal of College and University Law*, 30 (2), 435-464.

Huerta, A., Salinas, A., Conde, D., & Lopez, F.J. (2004). Special issue on education: Demands, battles and dreams of undocumented students. *La Gente de Aztlan Para Los Pueblos de Las Americas*, 33 (2).

Rabkin, H. (June 4, 2004). Act boosts college-funding options. *Daily Bruin*. Website: www.dailybruin.ucla.edu.

Vega, M.A. (March 10, 2004). Jóvenes se unen para dares apoyo en la universidad. *La Opinión Digital*. Website: www.laopinion.com

Badger, E. (2002). Myths and realities for undocumented students attending U.S. colleges and universities. *Journal of College Admission*, 174, 10-15.

Undocumented Students and Eligibility for Enrollment at U.S. Colleges and Universities
By Ellen Badger, Stephen Yale-Loehr, Matthew Vernon and Lindsay Schoonmaker
http://www.nafsa.org/ /Document/ /admissions_wrapup_newsletter_9.pdf

Undocumented Immigrant Students: A Very Brief Overview of Access to Higher Education in California
<http://tcla.gseis.ucla.edu/reportcard/features/5-6/ab540/pdf/UndocImmigStud.pdf>

Section 2: Assembly Bill 540 - The Law and the Facts

AB540, signed into law on October 12, 2001, authorizes undocumented students who meet specific criteria to pay in-state tuition at California's public colleges and universities (e.g., California Community Colleges, California State University, and University of California). Any student, except a person in nonimmigrant status, who meets the requirements, shall be exempt from paying nonresident tuition at all public colleges and universities in California.

AB 540 Eligibility Requirements

- ▯ **The student must have attended a California high school for 3 or more years**
- ▯ **The student must have graduated from a California high school or attained a G.E.D.**
- ▯ **The student must have registered or currently be enrolled at an accredited institution of higher education in California.**
- ▯ **The student must have filed or will an affidavit as required by individual institutions, stating that you will apply for legal residency as soon as you are eligible to do so.**

Non-immigrant students are not eligible for this exemption. Non-immigrant students, as defined by federal immigration law, may hold one of the following visas: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, TN, TD and V, and TROV and NATO.

AB 540 Affidavit -“CALIFORNIA NONRESIDENT TUITION EXEMPTION REQUEST”

Students must obtain, complete, and submit the AB540 Affidavit at the appropriate office of the college they WILL attend in order to receive the exemption from nonresident tuition.

California Community Colleges:

Request and submit the completed affidavit at the Admissions Office. You will be required to submit additional documentation such as high school transcripts and appropriate records of high school graduation or the equivalent.

California State University:

Request and submit the affidavit with the Office of Admissions and Records. You will be required to submit additional documentation such as high school transcripts and appropriate records of high school graduation or the equivalent.

University of California:

Request and submit the affidavit with the Office of the Registrar at the UC campus. The affidavit will need to be submitted once you have been admitted to the UC campus. Check with your campus for more specific instructions.

For additional information visit the following websites:

- **University of California** www.ucop.edu
- **California Community Colleges** www.cccco.edu
- **Los Angeles Community Colleges** www.laccd.edu
- **California State University** www.csumentor.edu

California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request
AB540 AFFIDAVIT

For Eligible California High School Graduates

Complete and sign this form to request an exemption from Nonresident Tuition. You must submit any documentation required by the College or University (for example, proof of high school attendance in California). Contact the California Community College, University of California or California State University campus where you intend to enroll (or are enrolled) for instructions on documentation, additional procedures and applicable deadlines.

ELIGIBILITY:

I, the undersigned, am applying for a California Nonresident Tuition Exemption for eligible California high school graduates at (specify the college or university) _____, and I declare the following:

Check YES or NO:

Yes No I have graduated from a California high school or have attained the equivalent thereof, such as a High School Equivalency Certificate, issued by the California State GED Office or a Certificate of Proficiency, resulting from the California High School Proficiency Examination.

Yes No I have attended high school in California for three or more years.

Provide information on all school(s) you attended in grades 9-12:

School	City	Dates:	
		From - Month/Year	To -Month/Year

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND SOME CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION OF HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND GRADUATION (OR ITS EQUIVALENT). FOLLOW CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONS.

Check the box that applies to you—check only one box:

I am a nonimmigrant alien as defined by Federal law, [including, but not limited to, a foreign student (F visa), or exchange visitor (J visa)].

OR

I am NOT a nonimmigrant alien (including, but not limited to, a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or an alien without lawful immigration status).

AFFIDAVIT:

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information I have provided on this form is true and accurate. I understand that this information will be used to determine my eligibility for the nonresident tuition exemption for eligible California high school graduates. I hereby declare that, if I am an alien without lawful immigration status, I have filed an application to legalize my immigration status or will file an application as soon as I am eligible to do so. I further understand that if any of the above information is untrue, I will be liable for payment of all nonresident charges from which I was exempted and may be subject to disciplinary action by the College or University.

Print Full Name (as it appears on your campus student records)	Campus/Student Identification Number
Print Full Mailing Address (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code)	Email Address (Optional)
	Phone Number (Optional)
Signature	Date

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR AB 540 STUDENTS:

Q: I am a nonimmigrant with a currently valid visa (for example, student or tourist visa). Do I qualify for in-state tuition?

A: You do NOT qualify for in-state tuition under the new law (AB 540). However, you may qualify for in-state tuition as a “resident” if your nonimmigrant status allows you to “establish domicile” in the U.S., and you satisfy other requirements for residency. For example, persons with “V” or “K” visas, and citizens of Micronesia or the Marshall Islands should be able to pay in-state tuition if they have lived in the state for more than one year.

Q: Is 9th grade included in the definition of “high school” if it is included as part of the middle school?

A: Yes. For purposes of eligibility for the tuition exemption, enrollment in the 9th grade, whether at a middle or high school, counts toward the California high school attendance requirement.

Q: Does the high school enrollment have to be at the same California school and for three consecutive years?

A: No, the three years for a student’s 9th through 12th grades need not be consecutive or completed at a single California school. For example, if a student attended 9th grade at a California middle or high school, left the state to attend 10th grade in another state, and returned to a second qualified California high school to complete 11th and 12th grades, that student would still meet the requirement of three years of high school attendance in California.

Q: What does “has graduated from a California high school or has attained the equivalent” mean?

A: The three possibilities include the following:

- a. A diploma from a California high school; or
- b. A High School Equivalency Certificate, issued by the California State GED Office; or
- c. A Certificate of Proficiency, resulting from the California High School Proficiency Examination.

Q: Does it matter how far in the past a student graduated from high school to be eligible for nonresident tuition exemption?

A: No, it does not matter how long ago the student graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent.

Q: Are “home schooled” students eligible?

A: A student who is “home-schooled” by a parent or other person who did not hold a California teacher credential is not eligible, because that “school” would not meet the exemption definition of a “high school in California.”

Q: Can students living out-of-state enroll in a private California “Internet high school,” complete their coursework via distance learning or correspondence, and meet the California high school enrollment and graduation requirements?

A: No. This type of private school would not meet the requirements of Section 48222 of the California Education Code, which defines a “high school in California” for the purposes of exemption eligibility.

Q: Does this new policy change a student’s eligibility to receive financial aid?

A: No. Eligibility for the nonresident tuition exemption does not affect the eligibility standards or requirements for any form of student financial aid. However, if the exemption is granted, it could impact the amount and, possibly type, or financial aid the student might receive. Undocumented students are not eligible for federal (e.g. Pell, SEOG) or state (e.g., BOGG Fee Waiver, EOPS & Cal Grant) financial aid, however, scholarships are available. For a complete listing of scholarships available for students regardless of immigration status go to www.maldef.org.

Q: I pay or have paid out-of state tuition, but I am now eligible to pay in-state tuition under the new law (AB 540). Will I be able to get a refund?

A: You will not be eligible for a refund if you paid out-of-state tuition for any term before January 1, 2002. You may be eligible for a refund only if you have paid out-of-state tuition for any term that begins on or after January 1, 2002. Contact the university or college administration for more information.

Q: Does this new policy change a student’s residence status?

A: No. This new policy does not grant residency status; rather, the new policy exempts/waives the student from paying nonresident tuition. These students will continue to be classified as nonresidents.

Q: Is there a maximum number of years for which I am eligible to receive this exemption?

A: No. There is no cap on the maximum number of years one can receive this exemption.

Q: Is the affidavit confidential?

A: Yes. The affidavit will be filed with the college or university- not the INS.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

It is important to know that undocumented students they:

- ✓ Cannot be denied admission to a California college or university based on their immigration status.
- ✓ Are not required to show a state issued ID and social security card to apply for admissions to a California college or university.
- ✓ Are not required to pay out-of state, international, capital outlay, or penalty fees (which may be charged to out-of-state students) to enroll at a California college or university, if you qualify for AB 540.
- ✓ Are not required to show proof of either 1) legal residency status or 2) be in process to obtain legal residency status.

****CAUTION: Some colleges/university staff may be unaware of AB 540 or may interpret the law incorrectly. If you feel that you have been discriminated against because of your residency status or because you have filed an AB 540 Affidavit, contact the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) at 213.629.2512, for assistance.***

Section 3: California Four Systems of Higher Education

Information Source: http://www.eaop.ucla.edu/0405/pub_calif4system.htm

	Community Colleges	California State University	University of California	Private Colleges
Number Statewide	108	23	10	Over 70
Local schools in each system	Harbor, El Camino, Compton, Long Beach, LA Trade Tech, LA Southwest, West LA, Cerritos, etc.	CSU Dominguez Hills, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Fullerton, Northridge, Cal Poly Pomona, etc.	UCLA, UCI, UCSB, UCSC, UCR, UCB, UCSD, UCD, UCSF UCM	USC, Pepperdine, La Verne, Loyola-Marymount, Claremont, Redlands, Occidental, etc.
Nature of Programs and Curriculum	Two-year schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career and job entry majors • Transfer classes • AA degrees • Vocational certificates • Concurrent enrollment (for high school students) 	Four-year schools with graduate programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various majors, depends on campus • Pre-professional training • BA and BS degrees • Master’s degrees • Teaching credentials 	Four-year schools with graduate and professional programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various majors, depends on campus/Research Institution • Pre-professional training • BA and BS degrees • Doctorates and professional degrees (i.e. law, medicine, dentistry) 	Varies according to size
Costs: Fees and/or Tuition (does not include room & board)	Approx. \$1,000 per year \$26 per unit (fees \$330;books & supplies \$648)	Approx. \$3,137 per year	Approx. \$6,000 per year	Approx. \$16,000-33,000 per year
Supported by:	Public tax monies and student fees	Public tax monies and student fees	Public tax monies and student fees	Private funds and tuition fees
Entrance Requirements for Freshman 1) Subject and GPA 2) Test	No subject requirements; must be 18 years old or a high school graduate. No tests required	High school graduate; Meet eligibility index, minimum of 2.0 gpa; full pattern of subject requirements completed w/C or better (see over). All grades count except P.E. and ROTC (grades 10-12). SAT Reasoning Test* or ACT *(formerly known as the SAT I)	A-G academic subject requirements completed w/ C or better. At least a 2.8 GPA and meet eligibility index; Only UC approved courses calculated in gpa (grades 10-12) SAT Reasoning Test* or ACT and two SAT Subject tests: 1) Elective choice (if math is chosen, Math 2C is required) 2) Elective choice	Prefer students who have met UC entrance requirements. Above 2.0 GPA. SAT Reasoning Test *or ACT Some require SAT Subject Tests Check catalogs for specific test requirements.

Section 4: Scholarship List The following are scholarships open to students regardless of immigration status. You should contact each scholarship provider for current information.

Scholarship/ Fellowship Program	Deadline	Contact: Address, Website or Phone	Award	Further Requirement
Scholarship for Prospective Educators	01-Jan	www.pdkintl.org , (812) 339-1156	\$1,000-\$5,000	Interest in Education
AAU Youth Excel Program Scholarship Amateur Athletic	07-Jan	www.aausports.org	\$2,000	High School Senior
Discover Card Tribute Award	09-Jan	www.aasa.org/awards	\$2,500	High School Senior
Film & Fiction Scholarship	15-Jan	his@gmu.edu	\$3,000	College Student
Scholarship for Prospective Educators	15-Jan	www.pdkintl.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Society of Plastic Engineers Scholarship Grants	15-Jan	www.4spe.org	\$1,000-\$4,000	HS/College Student
Adeline Rosenberg Memorial Prize	15-Jan	www.fcsymphony.org	\$2,000	HS/College Student
SPIE Ed. Scholarship in Optical Science and Engineering	31-Jan	www.spie.org/info/scholarships	\$1,000	HS/College Student Must be a member
William Kappel International Piano Competition	01-Feb	(301) 405-ARTS	\$1,000	HS/College Student
CollegeNET Scholarship Search Engine	01-Feb	www.collegenet.com	Varies	Varies
BMI Student Composer Award	01-Feb	www.bmi.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
ISA Scholarship Program	01-Feb	www.isa.org	\$1,000	College Student
Roothbert Fund, Inc. Grants and Fellowships	02-Feb	www.roothbertfund.org	\$2,000-\$3,000	HS/College Student
Best Teen Chef Culinary	14-Feb	www.aii.edu	\$2,000	High School Senior
National Portfolio Review Competition	14-Feb	www.aii.edu	\$2,000	High School Student
Worldstudio Foundation Scholarship Program	14-Feb	www.worldstudio.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
The D.A. Weber Scholarship Fund	15-Feb	www.cta.org , (650) 697-1400	\$2,000	Visit website for info
Helenic Times Scholarship	15-Feb	www.htsfund.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Academy of Motion Pictures Students Academy Awards	15-Feb	www.oscars.org/saa	\$2,000	HS/College Student
Society of Physics Students Scholarships, Grants and Internships	15-Feb	www.spsnational.org	\$1,000	College & Member
Wally David Legal Memorial Scholarship Fund	16-Feb	(949) 553-4202	\$1,000	Call for additional information
Youth Opportunities Foundation Scholarship	28-Feb	P.O Box 45762 Los Angeles, CA 90045, (310) 670-7664	varies	Call for additional information

Scholarship/ Fellowship Program	Deadline	Contact: Address, Website or Phone	Award	Further Requirement
Mable & Lawrence S. Cooke Scholarship	28-Feb	www.scouting.org/nesa/scholar (972) 580-2034	Varies	Eagle Scout Member
Barbara Wiedner and Dorothy Vandercook Peace Scholar.	01-Mar	16335 Patricia Way, Grass Valley, CA 95949 (530) 273-6018	\$250-\$500	Call for additional information
Executive Women International Scholarship Program	01-Mar	www.executivewomen.org	\$1,000	High School Student
VM Ball Program	01-Mar	afe@endowment.org	\$3,000	HS/College Student
Japanese American Citizen League Entering Awards	01-Mar	www.jacl.org , (415) 921-5225	\$1,000.00	HS Japanese Student
National Association of Pastorial Musicians Scholarship	05-Mar	npmsing@npm.org	\$2,000	HS/College Student
OFA National Scholarship Casey Family Awards	15-Apr	www.orphan.org	\$2,000	HS/College Student
Glenn Miller International Scholarship Search Engine	15-Mar	www.glennmiller.org	Varies	HS Sr. & College Fresh.
Donna Reed Performing Arts Scholarships and Internships	15-Mar	www.donnareed.org	\$1,000	HS Arts Student
United Agribusiness League Scholarship Program	29-Mar	www.ual.org	\$1,000-\$5,000	HS/College Student
Mervyn's Local Hero Scholarship	30-Mar	www.scholarshipamerica.org	\$1,000-\$10,000	Visit local Mervyn's store/ High School Sr.
National Association of Minority Engineers National Fund	30-Mar	www.namepa.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Princess Grace Scholarships, Grants, and Fellowships	31-Mar	www.pgfusa.com	\$5,000	HS/College Student
National Federation of the Blind Scholarships	31-Mar	www.nfb.org , (641) 236-3366	\$3,000	For Blind Students Only
MANA: A National Latina Organization	01-Apr	www.hermana.org , (202) 833-0060	DC trip / varies	Visit website for additional info
A.W. Bodine-Sunkist Memorial Scholarship	01-Apr	P.O. Box 7888, Van Nuys, CA 91409	\$2,000	Minimum 3.0 G.P.A
Ramona's Mexican Food Products Scholarships	01-Apr	13633 South Western Avenue, Gardena CA 90249, (310) 323-1950	\$10,000	E.L.A.High School student
The Fountainhead Essay Contest	01-Apr	P.O.Box 57044 Irvine, CA 92619, (949) 222-6550	\$500-\$5,000	11-12th grade student
Yoshiyama Award for Exemplary Service to the Community	01-Apr	www.grantee.hitachi.org , (202) 457-0458	\$5,000	Student must be nominated

Scholarship/ Fellowship Program	Deadline	Contact: Address, Website or Phone	Award	Further Requirement
A. Patrick Charnon Memorial Scholarship	01-Apr	P.O. Box 208, San Francisco, CA 94104, www.cesresources.org	\$1,500	Full-time undergraduate
Armenian Relief Society Undergrad Scholarship	01-Apr	www.arseastus.org	\$13,000	HS/College Student
Third Wave Foundation Scholarships and Fellowships	01-Apr	www.thirdwavefoundation.org	\$2,000	Women only
TELACU Engineering Award	05-Apr	malvarado@telacu.com	\$2,000	11-12th grade student
Signet Classic Student Scholarship Essay Contest	15-Apr	375 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014	\$1,000	Essay Contest
Fountainhead College Scholarship Essay Contest	15-Apr	essay@aymrand.org	\$3,000	Visit website for additional info
National Minority Jr. Golf Scholarship	15-Apr	www.nmjgsa.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Scholarship Data base	15-Apr	www.chciyouth.org , (210) 692-1971	\$1,500-\$5,000	HS/College Student
Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity: Tau Chapter Scholarship	18-Apr	www.tauchapter.com	\$500	Will attend CSU Dominguez Hills
MEChA de UC Riverside Alumni Scholarship	18-Apr	Mechapublicityucr@yahoo.com Alejandro, (909) 787-3821	\$300	Will attend UC Riverside
Service Leadership Award	19-Apr	1465 E. 103rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002, (323) 564-7911	\$2,000	High School Senior
International Music Competition of ARD Munich	20-Apr	www.ard-musikwetbewerb.de	\$5,000	College Student of 20-24yrs. of age
National Sculpture Society Scholarship	30-Apr	www.nationalsculpture.org	\$1,000	Visit website for additional info
UCLA Latino Alumni Association Scholarship	01-May	Isidro "Skid" Rodriguez, (310) 825-2420	\$1,000	Will attend UC Los Angeles
NAAS-USA Awards	01-May	www.naas.org	\$1,000	High School Student
BEEM Foundation Scholarships	02-May	http://beemfoundation.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Youth of the Year	15-May	1230 W. Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30309	\$1,500	High School Student
Foundation Research & Education Undergrad Merit	30-May	www.ahma.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Automotive Hall of Fame Scholarship	30-May	21400 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, Michigan 48121, (313) 240-4000	varies	Interest in the Automotive Career
Swackhamer Peace Essay Contest	01-Jun	www.wagingpeace.org , (805) 965-3443	\$500-\$1,500	Visit website for additional info
IFMA Foundation Scholarship	13-Jun	www.IFMA.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student

Scholarship/ Fellowship Program	Deadline	Contact: Address, Website or Phone	Award	Further Requirement
Salvadoran-American Leadership & Educational Fund	30-Jun	1625 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 718, Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 480-1052 www.salef.org	\$500-\$2,500	Latin American Student
Organic Way to Grow Essay Contest	01-Jul	www.mambosprouts.com	\$1,000	250 word essay
Rotary Foundation Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship	01-Jul	www.rotary.org	\$12,000	College JR.
Mexican American Grocers' Association	31-Jul	www.maga.org , (323) 227-1565 405 San Fernando Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90031	\$250-\$1,000	Latino College Sophomore
Golden State Minority Foundation	01-Aug	1055 Wilshire Blvd. Ste 115 Los Angeles, CA 90017	\$5,000	11-12th grade student
Ellen & Federico Jimenez Scholarship	15-Sep	634 S. Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90034, (213) 629-2512 x. 157	\$2,000	Community or Cal State student
Atlas Essay Competition	16-Sep	www.aynrand.org/contests	\$1,000	College Student
Prudential Spirit of Community Award	31-Oct	www.prudential.com , (888) 450-9961	\$1,000-\$6,000	Must write an Essay
SAMMY Award	01-Nov	https://www.scholarshipsok.com/info/sammy+awards+scholarship+milk/	\$500	High School Athlete
San Jose Mercury News Scholarship	01-Nov	750 Ridder Park Road, San Jose, CA 95190, (408) 271-3689	\$500	Must write an Essay
Guidepost Young Writer's Program	15-Nov	www.guidepost.com	\$1,000	HS Jr. & Sr.
Intel Science Talent Search	01-Dec	www.discovery.com/dyssc	\$5,000	High School Student
Gina Barchauer International Artists Piano Competition	01-Dec	www.bachauer.com/home.asp	\$4,000	HS/College Student
ASSE UPS Scholarship	01-Dec	(847) 699-2929	\$3,000	College Jr. & Sr.
Contemporary Record Society National Perform Artists	10-Dec	http://users.erols.com/crsnews	\$1,500	Visit website for additional info
National Competition of Composer Recordings	10-Dec	(610) 544-5920	\$1,000	HS/College Student
IACP Foundation Culinary Scholarship	15-Dec	www.iacpfoundation.org	\$1,000	High School Student
Worldfest Student Film Awards	15-Dec	www.worldfest.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Knight Essay Contest SAR	28-Dec	www.sar.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
National Association of Black Accountants National Scholar.	31-Dec	www.nabainc.org	\$1,000	African descent Student
L. Ron Hubbard's Future Illustrators Contest	Quarterly	www.writersofthefuture.com	\$1,000	HS/College Student
L. Ron Hubbard's Future Writers	Quarterly	www.writersofthefuture.com	\$1,000	HS/College Student
San Antonio International Piano Competition	N/A	www.saipc.org	\$15,000	Students of Ages 20-32

Scholarship/ Fellowship Program	Deadline	Contact: Address, Website or Phone	Award	Further Requirement
Harold F. Wilkins Scholarship Program	N/A	afe@endowment.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student
Joel Garcia Memorial Scholarship	N/A	3800 S. Figueroa St., L.A. 90037, (213) 740-5263	\$500-\$2,000	Interest in Journalism
Chicana/Latina Foundation	N/A	www.chicanalatina.org/resources	N/A	Call for additional information
Concerned Media Prof.'s. Tony Villegas Scholarship	N/A	P.O. Box 44034, Tucson AZ 85733	N/A	Request an application by Mail
Adolescence and Youth Undergraduate Research Award	N/A	www.radcliffe.edu/murray/grants/index.htm , 9617) 495-8140	\$1,000	College Student
Hispanic Scholarship Fund	N/A	55 Second St., Ste 1500, San Francisco, CA 94105, 1-877-HSF-INFO, www.hsf.net	\$1,000-\$2,500	H.S. Seniors
Migrant Farmworker Scholarships	N/A	www.migrant.net , 1-800-245-5681	\$500-\$2,500	Visit website for additional info
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation	N/A	1187 Coast Cillage Rd, Ste 1 Santa Barbara, CA 93108, (805) 965-3443	\$200-\$1,500	Poetry & Essay Contest
PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Program	N/A	www.pflag.org , (202) 467-8180	varies	LGBT Student
Poetry Contest Scholarship	N/A	www.poetry.com , (410) 356-2000	\$100-\$10,000	Visit website for additional info
Comisión Femenil Scholarship	N/A	Attn: Ana Gonzalez, P.O Box 86013, Los Angeles, CA 90086	\$1,000-\$1,500	Female of Latino descent
Lambda Theta Nu Sorority Inc., Latina Scholarship Award	N/A	1220 Rosecrans Av. #543, San Diego, CA 92106 www.lambdathetanu.org	\$200-\$1,000	Female of Latino descent
Latin American Professional Women's Foundation	N/A	P.O. Box 31532 Los Angeles, CA 90031	\$500	Female of Latino descent
Estrada Scholarship Fund	N/A	Woodrow Wilson High School, (323) 223-1133	\$500 +	Woodrow Wilson High Student
Muniz Family Scholarship	N/A	Ramon Muniz, (818) 677-2351	\$1,000	Will attend CSU Northridge
TELACU Education Foundation	N/A	5400 East Olympic Blvd., Ste 300 Los Angeles CA 90022	\$500-\$2,500	Multiple Scholarships Available
Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce Award	N/A	www.lajcc.org , (213) 482-1311	\$2,000	Scholar Athlete Student
Scholastic Art & Writing Awards	N/A	www.scholastic.com	\$100-\$5,000	7-12th grade student
Minority Scholarship	N/A	The Modesto Bee, P.O. Box 3928 Modesto, CA 95352, (209) 578-2091	\$500	High School Senior

Section 5: Immigration Information: Definition of Terms

Employment Authorization – A temporary work permit issued by CIS. A person who has work permit may temporarily work in the U.S. under the terms on the card, and may work until the expiration date on the card.

Green Card – A resident alien card issued by CIS to a lawful permanent resident. A person who has a resident alien card may live and work in the U.S. and serve in the military. Resident alien cards are not green (although many people call them “green cards”).

Immigrant – A noncitizen who intends to live permanently in the U.S.

Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) – The federal government agency that enforces immigration laws. The INS is not called the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) and is part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Immigration Consultants, a Notary Public, a Notario Publico, and Notarios – These are persons who are not lawyers and CANNOT give legal advice. Before going to a notario, consult with a community organization that provides free or low-cost service. See the agency list at the end of this section.

Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) – A person who has a “green card” and may live permanently in the U.S. An LPR may work in the U.S. and may serve in the military, but cannot vote. An LPR may be deported for certain criminal convictions or other serious problems. An LPR may become a U.S. citizen after a certain period of time.

Lawyer/Attorney – A person who may give legal advice. This person has studied law, has a law degree and is licensed by the State to practice law.

Non-Immigrant – A noncitizen who is permitted to enter the U.S. for a limited period of time, and is given a temporary visa (e.g., students, tourists, diplomats).

Undocumented – A noncitizen who is living in the U.S. without legal immigration status. An undocumented person does not have employment authorization (cannot work lawfully) and may be deported if discovered by CIS. He/she is not eligible for financial aid for college, but may be eligible for private scholarships.

U.S. Citizen – A person born in the United States or a person who naturalized. A U.S. citizen may not be deported, may petition to immigrate family members more easily and quickly than an LPR, and may vote in elections.

Naturalization – The process of applying for citizenship in the United States. Usually, a person must have been an LPR for 5 years before applying for naturalization. A person who is an LPR and is married to a U.S. citizen may be eligible for citizenship after 3 years.

Child Citizenship Act of 2000 – An LPR child under the age of 18 may automatically become a U.S. citizen if his/her parent is a U.S. citizen or becomes a U.S. citizen. The child must reside in the U.S. in the legal and physical custody of the U.S. citizen parent.

Visa – A document or stamp placed in a person’s passport issued by a U.S. consulate to a noncitizen to allow that person to enter the U.S. Visas are either nonimmigrant or immigrant.

FREQUENTLY ASKED IMMIGRATION QUESTIONS:

Q: How do I apply for a social security card?

A: To get a social security card, you must be a U.S. citizen, Lawful Permanent Resident, or have been lawfully admitted to the U.S. You must complete an application, and prove your age, identity and lawful status. There is not charge for a social security card.

Q: My parents use a number for their tax returns. Is this a social security number”

A: Your parents probably have an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN). This number is issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to persons who are not eligible for a social security number. It does not provide you with the right to work and does not grant you any immigration status. To apply for an ITIN, you must file a Form W-& or W-&SP (in Spanish) with the IRS.

Q: How do I get a California driver’s license or ID?

A: To get a California driver’s license or ID, you must have a social security number and meet other requirements.If you are not eligible for a driver’s license or ID, you should apply for some other form of photo identification. For example:

Apply for a passport at your local consulate office. If you are from Mexico, you can apply for a Matricula Consular or Consular Identification Card at the Mexican Consulate. Sometimes you can use the card to get a library card, public utilities, and to open a bank account. The card does not provide you with the right to work and does not grant you any immigration status.

Q: How do I select an immigration lawyer?

A: The best method is through word of mouth. Ask your friends and acquaintances first. While there is no hard and fast rule on determining whether an immigration lawyer is good or not, the following points would be worthwhile considering in the selection process.

1. Check to see if the lawyer is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) (As a practical matter, merely being a member of AILA does NOT ensure competence).
2. Also check if the lawyer holds an important position in the local or state bar association's immigration committee (Again, not necessarily a sign of competence, but better than yellow page
3. Look up the yellow pages of your phone book to obtain the tel# of free attorney referral services. Call them and ask for an opinion about the attorney you are considering.
4. Make sure that there are no restraining orders from the supreme judicial court that prohibits the attorney from practicing. Check prior experiences of the attorney with cases similar to that of yours. In particular, find out if the attorney has been successful in the past.
5. Finally, in your first consultation with the lawyer, feel free to bring up all questions and details pertaining to your case (this includes legal fees, processing time etc.).
6. Check with the better business bureau (BBB) in your city about the law firm of the lawyer you are considering. The BBB maintains a record of all businesses in a given city

and reports to you whether the business in question has been involved in unfair business practices (over the past 3 years).

(1)-(7) are issues that should be considered but are not sufficient. These are merely guidelines for choosing an immigration attorney. These are by no means comprehensive.

Non-Profit and Low-Cost Legal Referrals:

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
8601 S. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90003
(213) 640-3883
www.lafla.org

L.A. County Bar Immigration Project
300 N. Los Angeles St., Room 3107
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 485-1872
www.lacba.org

MALDEF
(Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund)
634 S. Spring St, 11th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90014
(213) 629-2512
www.maldef.org

National Immigration Law Center
3425 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2850
Los Angeles, CA 90010
(213) 639-3900
www.nilc.org

One-Stop Immigration & Education Center
3600 Whittier Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90023
(323) 268-8472
www.weingart.org

Public Counsel Law Center
601 S. Ardmore Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90005
(213) 385-2977
www.publiccounsel.org

Immigrant Advocates & Organizations:

CHIRLA
(Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles)
2533 W. 3rd St. Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA 90057
(213) 353-1333
www.chirla.org

SALEF
(Salvadoran American Leadership & Educational Fund)
1625 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 718
Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 480-1052
www.salef.org

CARECEN
(Central American Resource Center)
2845 W. 7th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90005
(213) 385-7800
www.carecen-la.org

APALC
(Asian Pacific American Legal Center)
1145 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 977-7500
www.apalc.org

Korean Resource Center
900 S. Crenshaw Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90019
(213) 937-3718
www.krcla.org

NAKASEC
(National Korean American Service & Education Consortium)
900 S. Crenshaw Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90019
(323) 937-3703
www.nakasec.org

Section 6: Dream Act & California Dream Act Legislation Information

The California Dream Act and Dream Act are two legislations that if implemented into law would assist undocumented students’ access to higher education, financial aid and U.S. residency.

SENATE
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE



STATE CAPITOL

ROOM 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-4022

DISTRICT OFFICE

Oviatt Building
617 S. Olive Street, Suite 710
Los Angeles, CA 90014
(213) 612-9566

GILBERT A. CEDILLO
SENATOR, TWENTY SECOND DISTRICT

SB 160 (Cedillo) California Dream Act

Non-resident alien intuitional assistance & Board of Governors fee waivers

Under current California law, students applying for public colleges and universities who do not poses lawful immigrations status are eligible to receive in-state tuition if they have graduated from a California high school and meet *all* of the requirements of the California Education Code § 68130.5. However, many of these students have who are eligible for instate tuition do not qualify for federal student aid. Even though these students have grown up in our neighborhoods and receive instate tuition rates, college is still financially unattainable for these low income families.

Under existing federal law, a 1982 United States Supreme Court decision ruled that a state may not deny school-age undocumented children the right to public K-12 education. To do so would violate the equal protection clause of the Constitution which applies to any person.

Many agree that we should allow these students to access public education throughout their formative years and we encourage them to set educational goals and to dream of their success, than shatter their hopes by imposing restrictions that bar them from continuing their education.

SB 160 THE California Dream Act

This bill would require the Board of Governors for the California Community College, Board of Trustees for the California State University, and strongly recommend to the Board of Regents of the University of California system to provide educational access opportunities to students by extending to them state and segmental financial assistance including, but not limited to, the Board of Governors Fee Waiver.

This bill would afford students who meet the provisions of California Education Code § 68130.5 and who meet the high school attendance and graduation criteria to apply for, and participate in, state financial assistance to the extent the federal law permits.

Support

Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California California State Student Association (CSSA) California Community College Board of Governors Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF) Associated Students Inc., Calif. State Univ. San Marcos South Bay Labor Council AFL-CIO	California Federation of Teachers AFL-CIO California Association of Bilingual Education California Together: Education Roundtable Community College League of California Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
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For more information please contact: Eric Z. Guerra at (916) 651-4022 or eric.guerra@sen.ca.gov

IMMIGRANT ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION: 109TH CONGRESS PENDING LEGISLATION

Bi-partisan Federal Legislation

DREAM ACT

Development, Relief, and Education for Alien
Minors Act (S. 2075)

Introduced by
Senator Durbin (D-IL), Hagel (R-NE), Lugar (R-IN)

Student Adjustment Act (HR 1684)

Introduced by Chris Cannon (R-UT),
Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Howard Berman (D-CA)

AGE

- Student must have entered the U.S. before the age of 16.

SCHOLASTIC REQUIREMENT

- Student must have a High School diploma or GED at time of application for relief; and
- Be accepted into a two or four year institution of higher education.

LONG-TERM US RESIDENCE

- Reside in US when law is enacted
- Must have lived in the US for at least 5 years prior to the date of enactment.

GOOD MORAL CHARACTER

- Must demonstrate good moral character as defined currently by immigration law.
- Must have no criminal record.

ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS

- Will be granted "**conditional status**" during six years during which one of the following options must be completed.
 - Earn a degree from a institution of higher education or
 - Serve in the US Armed Forces for at least 2 years

AGE

- Under 21 on the date of application for relief
- Some individuals over 21 are included if they qualified within the last 4 years of enactment only if currently enrolled or have graduated from college

SCHOLASTIC REQUIREMENT

- Enrolled at the 7th grade level or above

LONG-TERM US RESIDENCE

NOT YET INTRODUCED IN 2005-2006 CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

Have lived in the US for at least 5 years preceding the date of application for immigration relief

GOOD MORAL CHARACTER

- Must demonstrate good moral character as defined currently by immigration law

ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS

- If all these requirements are met, Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status will be given.



CHIRLA – Wise Up!
2333 W. 3rd St Suite 101, Los Angeles, CA 90057 (213) 201-4449 or (213) 353-3921 Fax: (213) 353-1344

harroyo@chirla.org, OR scontreras@chirla.org



Section 7: Now that I know, what can I do?

- Connect with current AB540 college-goers to begin a network of support.
- Ask them questions about how they are getting through college.
- Find out how to start an AB540 college support group at your school.
- Connect with agencies offering free immigration services to get information about your immigration status.
- Some students may be eligible to apply for residency and not know it, so find out for yourself.
- Research scholarships and apply for as many as possible.
- Search for other creative ways to fund your education (e.g., ask family members, teachers, local businesses, large companies).
- Submit a DREAM Act testimonial.
- Get involved with community groups working to pass the DREAM Act.

For more information regarding accessing higher education and resources for AB540 and undocumented students contact:

**Paz Oliverez at (213) 740-2881 or Oliverez@usc.edu
or
Mayra Soriano at (213) 480-1052 or msoriano@salef.org**

Scholarship Tips:

- There are organizations and individuals that provide scholarships to undocumented students, however, students should not rely too heavily on these because they are limited in number and becoming increasingly competitive. A scholarship list can be found on the MALDEF website at www.maldef.org.
- Students must contact individual scholarship providers for eligibility requirements, specific deadlines, and application process information. Make sure to obtain information from a representative since the information printed on the list may be outdated. Also, be sure to CHECK ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. You do not want to spend hours putting a scholarship application packet together only to find out the scholarship is no longer offered or that your residency status makes you ineligible.
- You should also ask about how the scholarship is awarded to you. Is the money given to you in the form of a check? Is the money filtered through the college? Answers to these questions are important because they determine how you will access the scholarship money awarded to you.
- It is recommended that students begin looking for scholarships as early as possible. What does this mean? Do not wait until the summer before entering college to apply! Begin your search while in high school and within your high school, school district and local community.

Private Aid

- Some private universities, companies, and organizations may provide financial assistance to help undocumented students pay for college. Contact individual groups to find out about resources that may be available to you.