

QUICK GUIDE TO COLLEGE ACCESS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS IN CALIFORNIA

AB 540/SB 68: IN-STATE TUITION & RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

California Residency for Tuition Purposes

Learn how California residency and AB 540/SB 68 are determined for tuition purposes at CA public colleges & universities.

California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Affidavit (AB 540)

Includes instructions to apply for AB-540 status & be exempt from non-resident fees at CA public colleges & universities.

SB 68 Fact Sheet & SB 68 Quick Guide

Learn how in-state tuition is expanding to include California Community Colleges, Adult Schools. Learn if you might be eligible to pay resident fees at a California public college or university and apply for the California Dream Act.

In-State Tuition vs CA Dream Act vs DACA

This chart clearly explains eligibility for California In-State Tuition (AB 540/AB 2000/SB 68), CA Dream Act, and DACA.

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT & STATE-BASED FINANCIAL AID

Types of State-Based Financial Aid available through the California Dream Act

The California Dream Act allows certain undocumented students (AB 540 & SB 68 eligible or TPS & U-Visa holders) to apply for and receive institutional scholarships and state-based financial aid at CA colleges and universities if they meet income guidelines, apply by the priority deadlines, and complete all necessary paperwork on-time.

FAFSA vs CA Dream Act: Apply to the Correct Financial Aid in California

If you have questions about which financial aid application students should complete or their eligibility, use this chart to be sure they apply for and receive all CA state financial aid for which they are eligible.

California Dream Act Map

Provides an overview of what students need to do from start to finish. Applying for the California Dream Act is easy if you have the right information and resources! Priority deadline is March 2nd every year!

IDEAL TIMELINE TO APPLY TO CA DREAM ACT

- Review this timeline with your students
- Use the tools prepared for each phase
- Every phase must be completed to receive the funds

1

APPLY FOR THE CA DREAM ACT
October 1 - March 2

2

APPLY FOR THE CAL GRANT
October 1 - March 2

3

CLAIM YOUR FINANCIAL AID
March - May

4

USE YOUR FINANCIAL AID
May - September

STEPS AND TOOLS TO APPLY FOR CA DREAM ACT

Phase 1. Apply for CA Dream Act - October 1 - March 2 Checklist for the 2019-20 California Dream Application

Applying for the California Dream Act is only the first step to receive state financial aid. This checklist helps undocumented students successfully apply for and be considered for all state financial aid.

Phase 2. Apply for Cal Grant - October 1 - March 2 Checklist to Apply for the 2019-20 Cal Grant

Undocumented students can only receive for the Cal Grant as a high school senior or community college transfer student. This checklist highlights the necessary steps to successfully apply for the High School or Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant.

Phase 3. Claim Your Aid - March - May Successfully Completing Income Verification Worksheet

Accurately complete the paperwork required to verify income, assets & household size. Know the different requirements for dependent vs. independent students and tax filers vs. non-tax filers.

Phase 4. Use your Aid - May - September Selective Service and the California Dream Act

Men between the age of 18 and 25 years old, even undocumented individuals, must show proof of registration for the selective service to receive state financial aid. Help students be aware of and follow these steps to prevent holds on their financial aid.

SCHOLARSHIPS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP

List of [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) scholarships that don't require proof of citizenship

All undocumented students in California can go to college and receive private or institutional scholarship—even if they don't meet eligibility for AB 540/SB 68 or the California Dream Act. Identify and apply for scholarships!

Scholarship Search Chart

Identify and create a game plan for all the scholarships you plan to apply for. Don't miss deadlines!

Building a Strong Scholarship Essay Worksheet

This worksheet helps potential scholarship applicants start building their scholarship essays by identifying key areas.

OTHER RESOURCES

Top 10 Ways to Support Undocumented Students

Understanding the Sanctuary School & Safe Zone Movement

For a full list of our resources, visit immigrantsrising.org.

Scan the QR code to view this resource online:

