

USCIS Now Accepting Initial DACA Applications

On December 4, 2020, a federal judge ordered the Department of Homeland Security to reinstate the original DACA program. Hence, USCIS is now accepting the following DACA applications or related forms of relief:

- Initial DACA Applications
- DACA Renewals
- Advance Parole Applications for current DACA Recipients

You may request DACA if you:

- Were under 31 years old on 06/15/2021
- Came to the U.S. before your 16th birthday
- Have continuously resided in the U.S. since 06/15/2007 until the present time
- Were physically present in the U.S. on 06/15/2012 and at the time of making your DACA request
- Had no lawful status on 06/15/2012
- Are currently in school, graduated from high school or received a certificate of completion, obtained a GED, or are an honorably discharged U.S. military veteran
- Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanors

USCIS Filing Fee for
DACA Initial
Applications and
Renewals: \$495

<https://www.ilrc.org/daca>

RESOURCES:

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- **Rapid Response Network:** (408) 290-1144
- **Immigrant Legal Resource Center:** ilrc.org
- **National Immigration Law Center:** nilc.org
- **ACLU:** aclu.org
- **SJSU Undocuspartan Center:** www.sjsu.edu/undocuspartan
- **SJSU Equal Opportunity Program (EOP):** www.sjsu.edu/eop
- **SCU Undocumented Student Resources:** www.scu.edu/lead/undocumented-student-support/undocumented-students-on-campus-resources
- **Stanford Undocumented Students:** <https://undocumented.stanford.edu/>

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **CA Dream Act:** dream.csac.ca.gov
- **DREAM'ers Roadmap:** dreamersroadmap.com
- **List of Undergraduate Scholarships that don't require proof of U.S. Citizenship:** immigrantsrising.org/wpcontent/uploads/immigrants-rising_list-of-undergraduate-scholarships.pdf
- **CA College Grant:** home.cccapply.org/money/california-college-promise-grant

MENTAL HEALTH

- **United We Dream:** unitedwedream.org/mentalhealth
- **Mental Health Connector:** immigrantsrising.org
- **Behavioral Health Call Center 24/7 Hotline:** 1(800) 704-0900
- **National Alliance on Mental Health 24/7 Hotline:** 1(800) 273-8255
- **Gardner Mental Health Services:** (408) 457-7100
- **LGBTQ Youth Space:** youthspace.org/counseling

They tried to
BURY US
they didn't know
WE WERE SEEDS.

-MEXICAN PROVERB-



Art by: Misha Zadeh + Amplifier.org

Resource Guide for Undocumented High School Students

Status of DACA as of 02/2021
*Not intended as legal advice



Know Your Rights

This guide was originally created when the Trump Administration ended the DACA program in September 2017. Currently, the USCIS has begun accepting initial applications and the requirements to qualify for DACA are listed in this brochure.

Regardless of immigration status, there are ways you can still pursue higher education and in most cases be eligible for in-state tuition. The most important fact to remember is there is not federal law that requires proof of citizenship status for admission or matriculation at any U.S. college or university. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or FERPA, generally prohibits schools from releasing information in your educational record without your consent.

To be eligible for in-state tuition, you must meet the requirements for AB 540, SB 68, AB 2000, and CA Dream Act. AB 540 is an exemption from the payment of non-resident tuition for certain non-resident students who have attended and graduated from a high school in CA. SB 68 and AB 2000 are an extension of AB 540 that expand the requirements to be eligible for in-state tuition. The CA Dream Act gives AB 540/AB 2000 students the right to apply for state financial aid.

Scholarships

Scholarships are essentially free money everyone should take advantage of. Below is a list of a few scholarships you can apply to including the DREAMer's Roadmap, a scholarship app specifically for undocumented students. *See back page for more information on scholarships.*

- MALDEF
- Bay Area Gardeners Foundation
- The Dream US
- Chicano Organizing & Research Education (CORE) Que Llueva Cafe Scholarship
- My Undocumented Life
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund
- Immigrants Rising and Scholarship Fund
- DREAMer's Roadmap

Career/Technical Education

Career and technical education or vocational training prepare people to work as a technician or to take up employment in a skilled craft or trade. This is a type of educational institution specifically designed to provide hands on skills education in the fields of cooking, construction, first responders, dental assistance, mechanics, cosmetology, the tech industry, etc.

There are private and public technical schools. In public technical schools, skills can be gained without a lot of debt.

4-Year University

San Jose State University and Santa Clara University both have centers or student organizations that focus on working with undocumented/AB 540 students and allies to create a space that is welcoming of all students regardless of their immigration status. At Stanford University, the BEAM program has career coaches that specialize in supporting diverse student populations including undocumented students.

San Jose State University - Undocuspartan Center, Equal Opportunity Program
Santa Clara University - LEAD program, Undocumented Students and Allies Association
Stanford University - BEAM program

All **Cal State** campuses provide direct immigration legal services that are free of charge to CSU students and employees. Attorneys and paralegals are available to assist students with general consultations, DACA renewals and general assistance in filling out forms such as family-based petitions. Many **UC's** have similar programs.

Community Colleges

Community college isn't only a good option to save money but also safe and immigrant friendly colleges. Most public community colleges in Santa Clara County offer the College Promise Program which can give you up to two years for free, including books and transportation. The following colleges have undocucenters: Foothill College, De-Anza College, West Valley College, Evergreen Valley College, Mission College, and San Jose City College.

Many community colleges provide free immigration legal services, including education and outreach services, to students, staff, and faculty on California community college campuses statewide. For more information, visit: www.ccco.edu.

Mental Health Services

With the current political climate, it's important to know there are resources available to you regardless of your immigration status. Check with the college or university you plan on attending to see if you are eligible for school-based health options. *See back page for mental health resources.*

REMEMBER TO SELF-CARE:

- Validate your feelings - hearing other stories
- Identify your triggers
- Build on your strengths
- Connect or reconnect with your joys
- Learn & practice new skills for healthy coping
- Know your rights and identify available resources
- Protect yourself from immigration scams
- Know that you are not alone!