

# **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](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:**

- |                                         |                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| ▪ <b>University of California</b>       | <a href="http://www.ucop.edu">www.ucop.edu</a>           |
| ▪ <b>California Community Colleges</b>  | <a href="http://www.cccco.edu">www.cccco.edu</a>         |
| ▪ <b>Los Angeles Community Colleges</b> | <a href="http://www.laccd.edu">www.laccd.edu</a>         |
| ▪ <b>California State University</b>    | <a href="http://www.csumentor.edu">www.csumentor.edu</a> |

**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)<br>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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades need not be consecutive or completed at a single California school. For example, if a student attended 9<sup>th</sup> grade at a California middle or high school, left the state to attend 10<sup>th</sup> grade in another state, and returned to a second qualified California high school to complete 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.eaop.ucla.edu/0405/pub_calif4system.htm)

|                                                                                                  | <b>Community Colleges</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>California State University</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>University of California</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Private Colleges</b>                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Number Statewide</b>                                                                          | 108                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 23                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Over 70                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Local schools in each system</b>                                                              | 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.                                                                                                   |
| <b>Nature of Programs and Curriculum</b>                                                         | Two-year schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career and job entry majors</li> <li>• Transfer classes</li> <li>• AA degrees</li> <li>• Vocational certificates</li> </ul> (for concurrent enrollment high school students) | Four-year schools with graduate programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various majors, depends on campus</li> <li>• Pre-professional training</li> <li>• BA and BS degrees</li> <li>• Master's degrees</li> <li>• Teaching credentials</li> </ul> | Four-year schools with graduate and professional programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various majors, depends on campus/Research Institution</li> <li>• Pre-professional training</li> <li>• BA and BS degrees</li> <li>• Doctorates and professional degrees (i.e. law, medicine, dentistry)</li> </ul> | Varies according to size                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Costs: Fees and/or Tuition (does not include room &amp; board)</b>                            | 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                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Supported by:</b>                                                                             | Public tax monies and student fees                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Public tax monies and student fees                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Public tax monies and student fees                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Private funds and tuition fees                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Entrance Requirements for Freshman</b><br><br><b>1) Subject and GPA</b><br><br><b>2) Test</b> | No subject requirements; must be 18 years old or a high school graduate.<br><br>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:<br>1) Elective choice (if math is chosen, Math 2C is required)<br>2) Elective choice       | Prefer students who have met UC entrance requirements. Above 2.0 GPA. SAT Reasoning Test *or ACT<br>Some require SAT Subject Tests<br>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   | <a href="http://www.pdkintl.org">www.pdkintl.org</a> , (812) 339-1156              | \$1,000-\$5,000 | Interest in Education                  |
| AAU Youth Excel Program Scholarship Amateur Athletic             | 07-Jan   | <a href="http://www.aausports.org">www.aausports.org</a>                           | \$2,000         | High School Senior                     |
| Discover Card Tribute Award                                      | 09-Jan   | <a href="http://www.aasa.org/awards">www.aasa.org/awards</a>                       | \$2,500         | High School Senior                     |
| Film & Fiction Scholarship                                       | 15-Jan   | <a href="mailto:his@gmu.edu">his@gmu.edu</a>                                       | \$3,000         | College Student                        |
| Scholarship for Prospective Educators                            | 15-Jan   | <a href="http://www.pdkintl.org">www.pdkintl.org</a>                               | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| Society of Plastic Engineers Scholarship Grants                  | 15-Jan   | <a href="http://www.4spe.org">www.4spe.org</a>                                     | \$1,000-\$4,000 | HS/College Student                     |
| Adeline Rosenberg Memorial Prize                                 | 15-Jan   | <a href="http://www.fcsymphony.org">www.fcsymphony.org</a>                         | \$2,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| SPIE Ed. Scholarship in Optical Science and Engineering          | 31-Jan   | <a href="http://www.spie.org/info/scholarships">www.spie.org/info/scholarships</a> | \$1,000         | HS/College Student<br>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   | <a href="http://www.collegenet.com">www.collegenet.com</a>                         | Varies          | Varies                                 |
| BMI Student Composer Award                                       | 01-Feb   | <a href="http://www.bmi.org">www.bmi.org</a>                                       | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| ISA Scholarship Program                                          | 01-Feb   | <a href="http://www.isa.org">www.isa.org</a>                                       | \$1,000         | College Student                        |
| Roothbert Fund, Inc. Grants and Fellowships                      | 02-Feb   | <a href="http://www.roothbertfund.org">www.roothbertfund.org</a>                   | \$2,000-\$3,000 | HS/College Student                     |
| Best Teen Chef Culinary                                          | 14-Feb   | <a href="http://www.aai.edu">www.aai.edu</a>                                       | \$2,000         | High School Senior                     |
| National Portfolio Review Competition                            | 14-Feb   | <a href="http://www.aai.edu">www.aai.edu</a>                                       | \$2,000         | High School Student                    |
| Worldstudio Foundation Scholarship Program                       | 14-Feb   | <a href="http://www.worldstudio.org">www.worldstudio.org</a>                       | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| The D.A. Weber Scholarship Fund                                  | 15-Feb   | <a href="http://www.cta.org">www.cta.org</a> , (650) 697-1400                      | \$2,000         | Visit website for info                 |
| Hellenic Times Scholarship                                       | 15-Feb   | <a href="http://www.htsfund.org">www.htsfund.org</a>                               | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| Academy of Motion Pictures Students Academy Awards               | 15-Feb   | <a href="http://www.oscars.org/saa">www.oscars.org/saa</a>                         | \$2,000         | HS/College Student                     |
| Society of Physics Students Scholarships, Grants and Internships | 15-Feb   | <a href="http://www.spsnational.org">www.spsnational.org</a>                       | \$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   | <a href="http://www.scouting.org/nesa/scholar">www.scouting.org/nesa/scholar</a><br>(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   | <a href="http://www.executivewomen.org">www.executivewomen.org</a>                                 | \$1,000          | High School Student                         |
| VM Ball Program                                          | 01-Mar   | <a href="mailto:afe@endowment.org">afe@endowment.org</a>                                           | \$3,000          | HS/College Student                          |
| Japanese American Citizen League Entering Awards         | 01-Mar   | <a href="http://www.jacl.org">www.jacl.org</a> , (415) 921-5225                                    | \$1,000.00       | HS Japanese Student                         |
| National Association of Pastorial Musicians Scholarship  | 05-Mar   | <a href="mailto:npmsing@npm.org">npmsing@npm.org</a>                                               | \$2,000          | HS/College Student                          |
| OFA National Scholarship Casey Family Awards             | 15-Apr   | <a href="http://www.orphan.org">www.orphan.org</a>                                                 | \$2,000          | HS/College Student                          |
| Glenn Miller International Scholarship Search Engine     | 15-Mar   | <a href="http://www.glennmiller.org">www.glennmiller.org</a>                                       | Varies           | HS Sr. & College Fresh.                     |
| Donna Reed Performing Arts Schlolarships and Internships | 15-Mar   | <a href="http://www.donnareed.org">www.donnareed.org</a>                                           | \$1,000          | HS Arts Student                             |
| United Agribusiness League Scholarship Program           | 29-Mar   | <a href="http://www.ual.org">www.ual.org</a>                                                       | \$1,000-\$5,000  | HS/College Student                          |
| Mervyn's Local Hero Scholarship                          | 30-Mar   | <a href="http://www.scholarshipamerica.org">www.scholarshipamerica.org</a>                         | \$1,000-\$10,000 | Visit local Mervyn's store/ High School Sr. |
| National Association of Minority Engineers National Fund | 30-Mar   | <a href="http://www.namepa.org">www.namepa.org</a>                                                 | \$1,000          | HS/College Student                          |
| Princess Grace Scholarships, Grants, and Fellowships     | 31-Mar   | <a href="http://www.pgfusa.com">www.pgfusa.com</a>                                                 | \$5,000          | HS/College Student                          |
| National Federation of the Blind Scholarships            | 31-Mar   | <a href="http://www.nfb.org">www.nfb.org</a> , (641) 236-3366                                      | \$3,000          | For Blind Students Only                     |
| MANA: A National Latina Organization                     | 01-Apr   | <a href="http://www.hermana.org">www.hermana.org</a> , (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   | <a href="http://www.grantee.hitachi.org">www.grantee.hitachi.org</a> , (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,<br><a href="http://www.cesresources.org">www.cesresources.org</a>  | \$1,500         | Full-time undergraduate             |
| Armenian Relief Society Undergrad Scholarship                 | 01-Apr   | <a href="http://www.arseastus.org">www.arseastus.org</a>                                                  | \$13,000        | HS/College Student                  |
| Third Wave Foundation Scholarships and Fellowships            | 01-Apr   | <a href="http://www.thirdwavefoundation.org">www.thirdwavefoundation.org</a>                              | \$2,000         | Women only                          |
| TELACU Engineering Award                                      | 05-Apr   | <a href="mailto:malvarado@telacu.com">malvarado@telacu.com</a>                                            | \$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   | <a href="mailto:essay@ayrnrnd.org">essay@ayrnrnd.org</a>                                                  | \$3,000         | Visit website for additional info   |
| National Minority Jr. Golf Scholarship                        | 15-Apr   | <a href="http://www.nmjgsa.org">www.nmjgsa.org</a>                                                        | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                  |
| Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Scholarship Data base | 15-Apr   | <a href="http://www.chciyouth.org">www.chciyouth.org</a> , (210) 692-1971                                 | \$1,500-\$5,000 | HS/College Student                  |
| Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity: Tau Chapter Scholarship         | 18-Apr   | <a href="http://www.tauchapter.com">www.tauchapter.com</a>                                                | \$500           | Will attend CSU Dominguez Hills     |
| MEChA de UC Riverside Alumni Scholarship                      | 18-Apr   | <a href="mailto:Mechapublicityucr@yahoo.com">Mechapublicityucr@yahoo.com</a><br>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   | <a href="http://www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de">www.ard-musikwettbewerb.de</a>                                | \$5,000         | College Student of 20-24yrs. of age |
| National Sculpture Society Scholarship                        | 30-Apr   | <a href="http://www.nationalsculpture.org">www.nationalsculpture.org</a>                                  | \$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   | <a href="http://www.naas.org">www.naas.org</a>                                                            | \$1,000         | High School Student                 |
| BEEM Foundation Scholarships                                  | 02-May   | <a href="http://beemfoundation.org">http://beemfoundation.org</a>                                         | \$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   | <a href="http://www.ahma.org">www.ahma.org</a>                                                            | \$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   | <a href="http://www.wagingpeace.org">www.wagingpeace.org</a> , (805) 965-3443                             | \$500-\$1,500   | Visit website for additional info   |
| IFMA Foundation Scholarship                                   | 13-Jun   | <a href="http://www.IFMA.org">www.IFMA.org</a>                                                            | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                  |

| <b>Scholarship/ Fellowship Program</b>                      | <b>Deadline</b> | <b>Contact: Address, Website or Phone</b>                                                                                 | <b>Award</b>    | <b>Further Requirement</b>        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Salvadoran-American Leadership & Educational Fund           | 30-Jun          | 1625 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 718, Los Angeles, CA 90015<br>(213) 480-1052 <a href="http://www.salef.org">www.salef.org</a> | \$500-\$2,500   | Latin American Student            |
| Organic Way to Grow Essay Contest                           | 01-Jul          | <a href="http://www.mambosprouts.com">www.mambosprouts.com</a>                                                            | \$1,000         | 250 word essay                    |
| Rotary Foundation Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship        | 01-Jul          | <a href="http://www.rotary.org">www.rotary.org</a>                                                                        | \$12,000        | College JR.                       |
| Mexican American Grocers' Association                       | 31-Jul          | <a href="http://www.maga.org">www.maga.org</a> , (323) 227-1565<br>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          | <a href="http://www.aynrand.org/contests">www.aynrand.org/contests</a>                                                    | \$1,000         | College Student                   |
| Prudential Spirit of Community Award                        | 31-Oct          | <a href="http://www.prudential.com">www.prudential.com</a> , (888) 450-9961                                               | \$1,000-\$6,000 | Must write an Essay               |
| SAMMY Award                                                 | 01-Nov          | <a href="http://www.whymilk.com">www.whymilk.com</a>                                                                      | \$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          | <a href="http://www.guidepost.com">www.guidepost.com</a>                                                                  | \$1,000         | HS Jr.& Sr.                       |
| Intel Science Talent Search                                 | 01-Dec          | <a href="http://www.discovery.com/dysc">www.discovery.com/dysc</a>                                                        | \$5,000         | High School Student               |
| Gina Barchauer International Artists Piano Competition      | 01-Dec          | <a href="http://www.bachauer.com/home.asp">www.bachauer.com/home.asp</a>                                                  | \$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          | <a href="http://users.erols.com/crsnews">http://users.erols.com/crsnews</a>                                               | \$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          | <a href="http://www.iacpfoundation.org">www.iacpfoundation.org</a>                                                        | \$1,000         | High School Student               |
| Worldfest Student Film Awards                               | 15-Dec          | <a href="http://www.worldfest.org">www.worldfest.org</a>                                                                  | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                |
| Knight Essay Contest SAR                                    | 28-Dec          | <a href="http://www.sar.org">www.sar.org</a>                                                                              | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                |
| National Association of Black Accountants National Scholar. | 31-Dec          | <a href="http://www.nabainc.org">www.nabainc.org</a>                                                                      | \$1,000         | African descent Student           |
| L. Ron Hubbard's Future Illustrators Contest                | Quarterly       | <a href="http://www.writersofthefuture.com">www.writersofthefuture.com</a>                                                | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                |
| L. Ron Hubbard's Future Writers                             | Quarterly       | <a href="http://www.writersofthefuture.com">www.writersofthefuture.com</a>                                                | \$1,000         | HS/College Student                |
| San Antonio International Piano Competition                 | N/A             | <a href="http://www.saipc.org">www.saipc.org</a>                                                                          | \$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      | <a href="mailto:afe@endowment.org">afe@endowment.org</a>                                                                  | \$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      | <a href="http://www.chicanalatina.org/resources">www.chicanalatina.org/resources</a>                                      | 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      | <a href="http://www.radcliffe.edu/murray/grants/index.htm">www.radcliffe.edu/murray/grants/index.htm</a> , 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, <a href="http://www.hsf.net">www.hsf.net</a>            | \$1,000-\$2,500 | H.S. Seniors                      |
| Migrant Farmworker Scholarships                         | N/A      | <a href="http://www.migrant.net">www.migrant.net</a> , 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      | <a href="http://www.pflag.org">www.pflag.org</a> , (202) 467-8180                                                         | varies          | LGBT Student                      |
| Poetry Contest Scholarship                              | N/A      | <a href="http://www.poetry.com">www.poetry.com</a> , (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<br><a href="http://www.lambdathetanu.org">www.lambdathetanu.org</a>          | \$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      | <a href="http://www.lajcc.org">www.lajcc.org</a> , (213) 482-1311                                                         | \$2,000         | Scholar Athlete Student           |
| Scholastic Art & Writing Awards                         | N/A      | <a href="http://www.scholastic.com">www.scholastic.com</a>                                                                | \$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](http://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](http://www.lacba.org)

##### ***MALDEF***

(Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund)  
634 S. Spring St, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90014  
(213) 629-2512  
[www.maldef.org](http://www.maldef.org)

##### ***National Immigration Law Center***

3425 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2850  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
(213) 639-3900  
[www.nilc.org](http://www.nilc.org)

##### ***One-Stop Immigration & Education Center***

3600 Whittier Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90023  
(323) 268-8472  
[www.weingart.org](http://www.weingart.org)

##### ***Public Counsel Law Center***

601 S. Ardmore Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
(213) 385-2977  
[www.publiccounsel.org](http://www.publiccounsel.org)

#### **Immigrant Advocates & Organizations:**

##### ***CHIRLA***

(Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles)  
2533 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Suite 101  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
(213) 353-1333  
[www.chirla.org](http://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](http://www.salef.org)

##### ***CARECEN***

(Central American Resource Center)  
2845 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
(213) 385-7800  
[www.carecen-la.org](http://www.carecen-la.org)

##### ***APALC***

(Asian Pacific American Legal Center)  
1145 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
(213) 977-7500  
[www.apalc.org](http://www.apalc.org)

##### ***Korean Resource Center***

900 S. Crenshaw Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90019  
(213) 937-3718  
[www.krcla.org](http://www.krcla.org)

##### ***NAKASEC***

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

### **STATE CAPITOL**

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

### **SENATE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE**



### **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

For more information please contact: Eric Z. Guerra at (916) 651-4022 or [eric.guerra@sen.ca.gov](mailto:eric.guerra@sen.ca.gov)

# IMMIGRANT ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION: 109<sup>TH</sup> 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)*

#### 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.
  - o Earn a degree from a institution of higher education or
  - o Serve in the US Armed Forces for at least 2 years

### Student Adjustment Act (HR 1684)

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

#### 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade level or above

**NOT YET  
INTRODUCED IN  
2005-2006  
CONGRESSIONAL  
SESSION**

#### 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!  
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## **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](mailto:Oliverez@usc.edu)  
or  
Mayra Soriano at (213) 480-1052 or [msoriano@salef.org](mailto: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](http://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.