

# Resources for Undocumented Students

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**CITY COLLEGES**  
*of* CHICAGO  
Education that Works

# Goal: Increase Immigrant Resources

Support existing initiatives and establish new partnerships to increase student success and strengthen CCC's ability to respond to new immigration policies affecting our students

# Chicago – Immigrant Community

- Approximately 20% of Chicagoans were born outside of the United States

	Chicago
Latin America	56.2%
Asia	20.4%
Europe	18.9%
Africa	3.4%

- CPS estimates approximately 15% of Chicago Public School students are undocumented

- Source: US Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey, Table B05006. Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population – Universe: Foreign-Born Population Excluding Population Born at Sea
- Source: “Undocumented Student College Access- NOW!”, Luis Narvaez, 2013.

# Who are Undocumented Students?

An undocumented student (immigrant) is a foreign national who:

**(1)** entered legally, but then violated the terms of his or her status and remained in the United States without authorization (tourist, student, or work visa has expired); or

**(2)** entered the United States without inspection or with fraudulent documents

# NOT Undocumented

## Types of Immigration Status

### Citizen

- Right to vote
- Can petition for spouse, children, siblings and parents to immigrate
- Can not be deported

### Legal Permanent Resident

- Permission to live and work in the U.S. permanently
- Must renew card every 10 years
- Can petition for spouse and unmarried children to immigrate
- Can be deported for certain crimes

### Visa Holder

- Permission to enter U.S.
- Expiration date
- Conditional: student, business, tourist
- Temporary work visas

# HB60: Illinois In-State Tuition

**2003:** Illinois signed into law an in-state tuition bill (**HB60**) permitting certain undocumented students who have attended and graduated from high school in IL to pay the same tuition rate as other classmates at public institutions.

- CCC does not require the in-state tuition affidavit; this is required by 4-year public schools. Proof of residency is required for in-district rates at CCC.
- HB60's goal is to help children of immigrants who were brought to the U.S. by their parents and have worked hard at school with the hope of going to college.

# HB60: Eligibility

- The student has lived with his or her parent high school in Illinois
- The student graduated from high school in Illinois or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in Illinois
- The student attended at least three (3) years of high school in Illinois prior to the date the student graduated or received a high school diploma equivalent
- The student registers as an entering student no earlier than the 2003 fall semester
- The student provides the university with an affidavit stating that the student will file an application to become a legal permanent resident (LPR) of the United States as soon as the student is eligible to do so

# **New Federal and State Policies**

- I. Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**
- II. Illinois DREAM Act**
- III. Illinois Temporary Visitor Driver's Licenses (TVDLs)**



# I. FEDERAL - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

- June 15, 2012: the Obama Administration announced that it would offer many DREAM Act-eligible youths “Deferred Action”
- Eligible undocumented students can apply for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals:
  - Temporarily shields them from deportation
  - Live and work legally in the United States

# Benefits of DACA

Deferred Action: “Discretionary determination to defer removal of an individual as an act of prosecutorial discretion”

- Does NOT confer lawful status

Qualifies you for:

- work authorization
- social security number
- In Illinois, a driver’s license (NOT a TVDL, a normal license)
- permission to travel outside of the United States and be allowed to re-enter.
  
- Does NOT qualify individuals to receive federal financial aid for education
- Does NOT qualify individuals for ACA (Obamacare)

# DACA Eligibility

- At least 15 years old (unless they are in deportation proceedings, in which case they go through a different process through ICE);
- Born after June 15, 1981;
- Arrived in the United States before they turning 16;
- Continuously resided in the US since June 15, 2007;
- Present in the United States on June 15, 2012 and did not have lawful immigration status on that date;
- Currently enrolled in school, have received a high school diploma or GED, or been honorably discharged from the US Armed Forces or the Coast Guard;
- Have not been convicted of a felony, a “significant misdemeanor,” or three or misdemeanor offenses (not counting minor traffic offenses), or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

# DACA Response in Illinois

- Approximately 2 million youth are eligible nationally and 75,000 in Illinois.
- In Illinois, an estimated 60% of DACA eligible youth had applied 1 year after DACA passed.

## Potential Barriers:

- Fee is prohibitive (Money Order for \$465)
- Fear or shame around being undocumented
- Lack of resources in community or trust in service providers
- Difficulty gathering documentation

# CCC's Response to DACA

- 3 Mega-Workshops for DACA application assistance held at Truman, Wright, and Daley in October 2012
  - collaboration with the Office of Congressman Luis Gutierrez and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.
- New and existing partnerships with not-for-profit legal service providers offering free confidential screenings for CCC students

# Partnerships for Free DACA Legal Screenings at CCC

Chicago Legal Clinic  
LAF (Legal Assistance Foundation)  
World Relief Chicago  
Erie Neighborhood House  
Latinos Progresando

**Thank you to CCC's many Immigration Partners**

The legal screening is not provided by City Colleges of Chicago; City Colleges of Chicago is merely providing space to the not-for-profit legal service organization.

# Example of Outreach Message

Are you an undocumented young adult who may qualify to stay and work in the United States legally through **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**?

## FREE LEGAL SCREENING

An immigration attorney from Legal Assistance Foundation, a not-for-profit legal service provider, will be available for a free, private, one-on-one screening for undocumented students seeking to review their eligibility for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

Please check-in at the **Gateway Office, A120**, during the times the LAF attorney will be on campus. The free one-on-one screening will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. There will be an overflow list available to determine if scheduled appointments are needed for future sessions.

The legal screening is not provided by City Colleges of Chicago; City Colleges of Chicago is merely providing space to Legal Assistance Foundation.

# Beware of Fraud

**Students should only seek advice from an Immigration Attorney or BIA accredited Representative.**

- Only attorneys or BIA accredited representative may give legal advice, which includes advising on the kind of relief to seek
- Accredited representatives have to be accredited and work for an agency recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals –ask to see their accreditation documents.

## Report fraud

Attorney General of Illinois, 1-800-386-5438

[www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)

- City of Chicago Dept. of Consumer Services  
[www.cityofchicago.org](http://www.cityofchicago.org)



## II. Illinois DREAM Act

- February 4, 2012: Governor Quinn named the IL DREAM Fund Commission Members – state law signed August 2011 **designed to increase college-bound information and access to scholarships, regardless of status.**
- Application for second year of Illinois DREAM Fund Scholarship due **March 15, 2014.**

# Illinois DREAM Fund Scholarship

- Up to \$2000 for 2 year college
- Up to \$6000 for 4 year university
- Students currently in their last year of high school OR current undergraduates can apply
- Currently, the scholarship is not renewable



## Requirements

- Minimum GPA of 2.5 (on 4 point scale)
- Graduated from IL high school or obtained their GED in IL
- Attended high school in IL for 3 years
- Must be an undocumented immigrant (ineligible for FAFSA)

# 529 Savings Plans

## Two 529 Savings Plans in Illinois

- College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition
- Bright Start Savings Plan

## Benefits

- Increased value of plan is exempted from Illinois state income tax if used for qualified higher education benefits.
- Contributions can be deducted from taxable state income.
- Creates an expectation of college attendance in the home

# CCC's Response to IL DREAM Fund

- Outreach campaign encouraging students to apply for Illinois DREAM Fund scholarship (CCC homepages, student newsletters)
- Collaborations with community-based organizations for workshops and message on CCC as strategic option for students



# CCC Foundation Scholarships

- CCC launched new online scholarship application in 2013
- Online applications for Spring 2014 will be available beginning **April 1, 2014**
- Undocumented students may use the **Financial & Household Certification Form** with their application

[ccc.edu/scholarships](http://ccc.edu/scholarships)

### III. Illinois Temporary Visitor Driver's Licenses (TVDLs)

- January 2013: Governor Quinn signed SB957, which enables undocumented immigrants in Illinois to get temporary visitor driver's licenses (TVDLs).
- Secretary of State made TVDL applications available in mid-December 2013 at selected facilities and then roll out TVDL program to additional sites in 2014.
- TVDLs are available to both visa holders and undocumented immigrants.

# Mental Health – Wellness Centers

- According to the Institute of Mental Health, youth are at a heightened risk of having anxiety disorders that often go untreated.
- The risk of having an anxiety disorder is even greater for undocumented youth due to uncertainty over their future, fear associated with their status and the social stigma about being undocumented.
- Feeling stigmatized can also have a negative impact on self-esteem and may lead to depression.
- Barriers to Mental Health Treatment:
  - Fear of deportation
  - Lack of health insurance and reluctance in seeking medical care for fear that undocumented status will be revealed
  - Limited affordable resources within the community.

# DREAMer Team

- **Understanding** of challenges faced by undocumented students
- **Respectful** of the confidentiality of student's status
- **Responsive** to new policies impacting students and strategic partnerships for increased resources



# RESOURCES

## Scholarships / Financial Services

- CCC Foundation Scholarships
  - [ccc.edu/scholarships](http://ccc.edu/scholarships)
- Illinois DREAM Fund application
  - [www.illinoisdreamfund.org](http://www.illinoisdreamfund.org)
- Illinois Student Assistance Commission – IL DREAM Act
  - [www.isac.org/home/illinois-dream-act.html](http://www.isac.org/home/illinois-dream-act.html)
- ICIRR Undocumented Students Guide – appendix of Colleges/Scholarships/Application
  - [http://icirr.org/sites/default/files/student\\_guide\\_for\\_illinois\\_undocumented\\_students\\_dream\\_act.pdf](http://icirr.org/sites/default/files/student_guide_for_illinois_undocumented_students_dream_act.pdf)

# RESOURCES

## Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

- USCIS Consideration for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
  - [www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals](http://www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals)
- DREAM Relief resources
  - <http://dreamrelief.org/>
- DePaul University's Not-for-Profit Legal Referral List
  - [http://law.depaul.edu/programs/clinical\\_programs/pdf/asylum\\_immig\\_referral\\_list.pdf](http://law.depaul.edu/programs/clinical_programs/pdf/asylum_immig_referral_list.pdf)

## Undocumented Driver's Licenses (TVDLs)

- Secretary of State –Illinois TVDLs
  - <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/TVDL/home.html>

# Questions and Feedback

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