The College Guide for Advising Undocumented Students
Spring 2015

Thanks to the representatives of the following organizations for their work creating, editing, and compiling this document: Breakthrough Austin, KIPP Austin, College Forward, Austin Partners in Education, Con Mi Madre, E3 Alliance, Austin Chamber of Commerce, and Foundation Communities. Additional thanks to Evangelina Orozco who led the way in founding the College Advising for Undocumented Student Taskforce and provided the foundation for many documents in this guide, and to Laura Chrisco for her work editing and formatting the guide.
# Table of Contents

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**
- Introduction to ACAN and SB1528 ........................................... 4
- Residency Tree ........................................................................... 5
- Undocumented Students in the U.S. and in Texas ......................... 6
- Immigration Basics ..................................................................... 7
- Basic Facts About In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students’ ... 13

**PROCESS OF APPLYING TO COLLEGE IN TEXAS AND OUT OF STATE**
- Checklist for Applying to College as an Undocumented Student .... 17
- Sample of Apply Texas Application ............................................. 18
- Texas SB1528 Affidavit ............................................................... 21
- Dual Credit Enrollment Process .................................................. 24
- Applying Out of State and Undocu-friendly Institutions ............... 25

**PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID IN TEXAS**
- Financial Aid Available to Undocumented Students .................... 33
- Grants and Loans Available to Undocumented Students ............... 34
- Checklist for Applying for Financial Aid ...................................... 39
- Applying for Financial Aid Flow Chart ....................................... 40
- Sample FAFSA ........................................................................... 41
- Sample TASFA ........................................................................... 49
- University-Specific Financial Aid and Admissions Policies .......... 55

**RESOURCES**
- Undocumented Students’ Perceptions of College ......................... 59
- Frequently Asked Questions ....................................................... 62
- Updates on the DREAM Act ....................................................... 67
- Updates on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) ....... 69
- DACA Resources in Texas ......................................................... 71
- Scholarship List .......................................................................... 78
Background Information

Included in this section:

- Background on Austin College Access Network and Senate Bill 1528
- Residency Tree
- Background on Undocumented students in the US and in Texas
- Immigration Basics and Terminology
- Undocumented Students and Access to Higher Education
Introduction to ACAN and SB1528

Austin College Access Network

This guide is a project of the Austin College Access Network (ACAN), a joint task force of non-profit organizations and educators in Central Texas.

Two compelling forces drove ACAN to compile a guide for advising undocumented students who are interested in pursuing higher education: first, a law (previously HB 1403 and currently SB 1528) came into effect in 2001 that enables undocumented students to qualify as Texas residents within the state’s public higher education system, and pay in-state tuition. Secondly, more undocumented students have the opportunity to pursue a college degree than we might expect: in 2004, UNICEF estimated that 65,000 undocumented children who have lived in the United States for five years or longer graduate from U.S. high schools each year. Unfortunately, confusion about how to counsel undocumented students prevails. This guide is an attempt to clearly present facts and dispel the myths enveloping this critical issue.

Texas House Bill 1403 and Senate Bill 1528

Effective since 2001, Texas HB1403 enables immigrant students, including those without documentation, to qualify as Texas residents and pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities in the state. This tuition is much lower than the tuition paid by international students. In 2005, the Texas Legislature approved a new law, SB1528, which expands benefits of HB1403.

To qualify under these laws, a student must meet the following four provisions:

1) Graduate from a public or private high school, or receive a GED, in Texas;

2) Reside in Texas for at least the 3 years leading up to high school graduation or receiving GED;

3) Reside in Texas for the 12 consecutive months right before the semester you are enrolling in college; and

4) Provide the institution an affidavit stating that you will file an application to become a U.S. permanent resident as soon as you are eligible to do so.

- Immigrant students who do not meet the requirements above but who have filed an I-30 (family petition) or I-40 (work petition) with immigration services (USCIS), and have received a Notice of Action as a response from the USCIS, are also eligible to receive in-state tuition if they have been here for at least 12 months.

- People holding work visas (H1-B) and their dependents (H-4) can now also receive in-state tuition at state universities. The same rule applies for NACARA and TIPS applicants, among others.
Residency Tree

Texas Residency Decision Tree for High School Students
Based on information from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

START HERE
Has student spent 36 months in TX leading up to H.S. graduation or GED and 12 months in TX prior to college enrollment? (Time may overlap)

Is student eligible to file income tax as independent tax payer?

Is student eligible to be claimed by resident parent as a dependent?

Are student’s parents eligible to domicile* in US?

Did student establish domicile* in US?

Did student establish domicile* in TX?

Did student live in TX in the 12 months prior to college enrollment?

Did student live in TX in the 12 months prior to college enrollment?

Legend
- General Residency Requirements (GRR)
-Filed as Independent & do not meet GRR
-Filed as Dependent & do not meet GRR
- Undocumented Students & Students Regardless of Visa Type

*Eligible to domicile in US: US citizens, permanent residents, person with eligible visas, refugees/asylees, immigrant in process of legalization issued a NAFTA, TPS/MAGARES/VAWA/HRipa/Cuban Act Beneficiaries. For full list of persons eligible to domicile in US, including all eligible visas, go to http://www.texasresidency.gov.

**To qualify for Texas in-state tuition, migrant students (undocumented or with a visa) must submit a notarized affidavit of intent to each college/university they apply to; the affidavit must state the student will apply for permanent residency status as soon as he/she is eligible to do so.
Undocumented Students in the U.S. and in Texas

Background
Although it is difficult to get an accurate picture of the immigrant population in the United States, researchers estimate that 1.8 million undocumented children and youth are now living in the country.

In 1982, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Plyler vs. Doe* found that because undocumented children are illegally in the United States through no fault of their own, they are entitled to the same K–12 educational opportunities that states provide to children who are citizens or legal residents. For this reason, U.S. public schools may not deny enrollment to any school-age children, regardless of their immigration status. In addition, such students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals, special education services, and school sponsored events and activities. **Federal law does not require school districts or their employees to report undocumented students to immigration authorities.** Doing so would constitute a violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act if information in a student’s education records is disclosed without consent. School leaders face the sometimes challenging responsibility of ensuring student safety and protecting student privacy while complying with federal and state immigration laws.

Access to Higher Education
Each year, approximately 65,000 undocumented students who have lived in the United States for five years or more graduate from high school. Those youth frequently encounter challenges when applying for college or employment. The College Board estimates that **only 5-10% of undocumented students attend college.** Although federal law does not prohibit undocumented students from attending U.S. colleges or universities, most states do not allow them to pay in-state tuition and they are not eligible for most federal loans, financial aid, and scholarships. The states that allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition have not experienced financial burdens, but have increased revenues for colleges and universities because the students would not have attended college or gone elsewhere. According to the College Board, the investment in K–12 education for undocumented students “pays relatively few economic dividends as long as they are limited in their ability to continue on to college and obtain higher-skilled (and higher-paying) jobs that require more than a high school degree.”

**Figure 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Shading surrounding line indicates low and high points of the estimated 90% confidence interval. White data markers indicate the change from the previous year is statistically significant (for 1995, change is significant from 1990). Data labels are for 1990, odd years from 1995-2011 and 2012.

Immigration Basics¹

Who Is an Immigrant?
According to U.S. law, an immigrant is a foreign-born individual who has been admitted to reside permanently in the United States as a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR).

How Do Immigrants Get Admitted to Permanently Reside Here?
Typically, a foreign-born individual seeking to become an LPR can do so in one of three ways:

- **Through family-sponsored immigration**, a U.S. citizen can sponsor his or her foreign-born spouse, parent (if the sponsor is over the age of 21), minor and adult married and unmarried children, and brothers and sisters. A Lawful Permanent Resident can sponsor his or her spouse, minor children, and adult unmarried children. Our immigration system divides the family members eligible for sponsorship into two tiers. *Immediate relatives* of U.S. citizens—that is, spouses, unmarried minor children and parents, but not brothers and sisters or unmarried and married adult children—are admitted as their applications are processed.

- **Through employment-based immigration**, a U.S. employer can sponsor an individual for a specific position where there is a demonstrated absence of U.S. workers.

- **By winning one of a limited number of immigrant visas available in the annual diversity visa lottery** that is open to immigrants from certain countries.

Who Is a Refugee?
A refugee is a person outside of the United States who seeks protection on the grounds that he or she fears persecution in his or her homeland. To obtain refugee status, a person must prove that he or she has a "well-founded fear of persecution" on the basis of at least one of five specifically-enumerated and internationally recognized grounds. Those grounds include the person's race, religion, membership of a social group, political opinion, or national origin. A person who has already entered the United States, and who fears persecution if sent back to his or her country, may apply for asylum here. Once granted asylum, the person is called an "asylee". Like a refugee, an asylum applicant must also prove that he or she has a "well-founded fear of persecution" based on the same enumerated grounds. Both refugees and asylees may apply to become LPRs after one year.

Who Is an Undocumented Immigrant?
An undocumented immigrant is a person who is present in the United States without the permission of the U.S. government. Undocumented immigrants enter the U.S. either illegally, without being inspected by an immigration officer, or by using false documents, or legally, with a temporary visa, and then remain in the U.S. beyond the expiration date of the visa.

Who Is a Non-immigrant?
A non-immigrant is an individual who is permitted to enter the U.S. for a period of limited duration. Non-immigrants include: students, tourists, temporary workers, business executives, diplomats, artists, entertainers, and reporters. Depending on where they are from and the purpose of their visit, non-immigrants may be required to apply for and obtain a visa from the U.S. government. The application process entails an interview with a U.S. consular official in the nearest U.S. consulate, who has the sole authority to grant or deny a visa. Even if granted, the visa is merely a travel document. All non-immigrants, regardless of whether they have a U.S. visa, must also pass immigration inspection upon arrival in the U.S.

Who Is a Naturalized Citizen?

¹ The information in this section is taken from Justice for Immigrants [http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/immigration-basics.shtml]
Lawful Permanent Residents are eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship through a process called naturalization. To qualify for naturalization, applicants generally must reside in the U.S. for five years (three if they are married to a U.S. citizen) without having committed any serious crimes, show that they have paid their taxes and are of "good moral character", and demonstrate a knowledge of U.S. history and government as well as an ability to understand, speak, and write ordinary English.

What's the Difference Between a Refugee and an Asylee?
Refugees and asylees are people seeking protection in the U.S. on the grounds that they fear persecution in their homeland. A refugee applies for protection while outside the United States. An asylee differs from a refugee because the person first comes to the United States and, once here, applies for protection. Refugees generally apply in refugee camps or at designated processing sites outside their home countries. In some instances, refugees may apply for protection within their home countries, such as in the Former Soviet Union, Cuba, and Vietnam. If accepted as a refugee, the person is sent to the U.S. and receives assistance through the "refugee resettlement program".

How Does Someone Gain Refugee Status?
To qualify for refugee resettlement in the U.S., a person must come from a country designated by the Department of State. The person must meet the definition of a refugee by proving that she has a well-founded fear of persecution. The refugee applicant must prove that this fear is based on the possibility of persecution because of her race, religion, membership in a social group, political opinion, or national origin. In addition, a refugee must fit into one of a set of "priority" categories, which factor in degree of risk to the refugee's life, membership in certain groups of special concern to the U.S., and existence of family members in the U.S.

A person claiming refugee status must undergo a vigorous screening process before being resettled in the U.S. First, the person is screened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to determine if she qualifies as a refugee under international law. If she qualifies, she next is screened by the U.S. embassy in the host country, which contracts with private organizations to collect personal information about refugees. The embassy will check the name of the refugee in its Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS), which contains the names of millions of persons who have been denied visas, or who may be otherwise ineligible for entry into the U.S. If she passes that test, an officer from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) conducts a face-to-face interview and reviews the file. The refugee is then photographed and fingerprinted by the State Department. Certain refugees must receive clearance from the FBI. If no problems arise in all of this screening, the refugee proceeds to the U.S., where an inspector from the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection conducts one more interview and compares the refugee with host country U.S. embassy records. While these redundant checks ensure that no one who is not entitled to refugee status will get it, they have greatly slowed the admissions system, and hampered our ability to protect vulnerable individuals.

Thousands of refugee “slots” have gone unused in recent years, even as the admission ceilings have been greatly reduced from those of the recent past. Without additional resources, the U.S. is falling short of its commitment to protect refugees.

After refugees have been in the U.S. for one year, they are eligible to become permanent residents. There is no limit to the number of refugees who may become permanent residents each year.

Family-Sponsored Immigration
Family-sponsored immigration is the way U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents bring family members from other countries to live permanently in America. Citizens may sponsor only their spouses, children, parents (if the citizen is older than 21 years), and brothers and sisters (if the citizen is older than 21 years). LPRs may sponsor only their spouses and unmarried children. Neither citizens nor LPRs may bring in more distant family members, such as aunts, uncles, and cousins.
Our immigration system divides the family members eligible for sponsorship into two tiers. *Immediate relatives* of U.S. citizens—that is, spouses, unmarried minor children and parents, but not brothers and sisters or unmarried and married adult children—are admitted as their applications are processed.

**Non-immigrant Visas**

"Non-immigrants" are tourists, students, and other persons who come *temporarily* to the U.S. for pleasure, business, study, diplomacy, or other purposes on an alphabet soup of visa categories. The total number of immigrants—family-sponsored, employment-based, and diversity immigrants—is small compared to the number of people who come here for short periods of time. These non-immigrants outnumber immigrants by about 30 or 40 to 1. In fiscal year 2003, nearly 28 million persons came to this country temporarily. Of those, more than 24 million came here as tourists or business visitors.

**Visas for Tourists and Business Visitors**

The vast majority of people coming to the U.S. temporarily do so for tourism or business. In most countries, these individuals must obtain a visa from a U.S. embassy or consulate. In reviewing an application for a temporary visa, U.S. immigration law requires consular officers to ensure that the applicant does not intend to stay permanently. Therefore, a visa applicant must prove that he or she plans to return on or before the time the visa expires. The applicant can do this by showing that he or she has a residence outside the U.S. and other ties that will insure he or she will return before the expiration date of the visa. In addition to proving they are not “intending immigrants,” visa applicants are fingerprinted and photographed, and information about them is check against government databases of persons who are ineligible to enter the U.S. because of criminal activity, past visa problems, or links to terrorist groups.

**Visas for Students**

Over one-half million students come to the U.S. each year. A person is considered a student if he or she comes to the U.S. to enroll in coursework of 18 hours or more per week. To obtain a student visa, a person must first apply to a U.S. academic institution, be accepted, and receive an immigration form “I-20” from the school. The student must then apply for a visa at a U.S. Consulate in his or her home country. Among the things the student may need to show in the visa application process are acceptance to a U.S. school, availability of sufficient funds to cover all expenses for the entire course of study without resorting to employment in the U.S., evidence of family and/or economic ties to the home country sufficient to induce him or her to return after completing the coursework and, if required by the school, proficiency in English.

Students are usually allowed to remain in the U.S. for the duration of their studies. If there is any change in the student’s status — that is, if his or her coursework drops below the minimum required, or if the student changes field of study, the school is required to report this information to the government.

The increased scrutiny of visa applications for students in recent years has led to months-long delays for some students, and a perception that the U.S. is a less-welcoming place to study. For the first time in three decades, enrollment of foreign students in U.S. colleges and universities fell in 2004. Information about foreign students is collected via the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), an internet-based system which maintains immigration status information, such as admission at a port of entry, as well as personal and academic information about students, such as their course load, field of study, current address, and other information. Any change in this information must be reported to the government by the school, using SEVIS.

The schools themselves must have permission to enroll foreign students. Most U.S. colleges and universities have been approved by the government to enroll foreign students. With the requisite permission, other institutions—including vocational schools, junior colleges, public high schools, and language training schools—may also enroll foreign students.

**Visitors Not Required to Obtain Visas**
Canadians crossing over the U.S. border are generally not required to have a visa.

Citizens from the 27 participating countries in the Visa Waiver Program also are not required to obtain a visa if they are planning to come to the U.S. for business or pleasure for a period of 90 days or less. However, there are strict conditions under which people may come to the U.S. under the Visa Waiver Program—they must have valid, machine-readable, passports; their stay is limited to a maximum of 90 days; they must have round-trip tickets, if they arrived by air or sea; and they must have proof of financial solvency. If they do not have a machine-readable passport, they must apply for and obtain a visitor visa.

The U.S. places strict rules on the participating countries before they are admitted to the Visa Waiver Program. First, the non-immigrant visitor visa refusal rate (the rate of visa applications denied by U.S. consular officers) must be three percent or less for the previous fiscal year. Second, the participating country must offer reciprocal visa-free travel for U.S. citizens. Third, the country must have a machine readable passport program in place. Fourth, the country must be politically and economically stable. Fifth, the participating country must have effective border controls for its own borders. Sixth, law enforcement agencies in the participating country must be cooperating with their U.S. counterparts. Finally, the U.S. considers any possible security concerns that might be raised, should a country be admitted to the program.

Countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program are: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Regardless of whether they have a visa, arriving foreigners are fingerprinted and photographed through the USVISIT program, which eventually will be deployed to become a regular part of the inspection procedure at all land, air, and sea ports of entry. Foreigners leaving the country will again have to check in with US-VISIT so that the Department of Homeland Security will have information on whether the visitor complied with the terms of his or her stay. By February 2005, the program had not been fully implemented, but procedures to collect information from foreigners exiting the U.S. were being tested at a number of airports.

Naturalization

Naturalization is the process by which eligible legal immigrants become U.S. citizens. Through the naturalization process, immigrants display a willingness to become full members of our society. The process is not an easy one. It requires that immigrants live in the U.S. for a certain number of years, learn our language, study our history and government, show that they are of "good moral character" and have not committed serious crimes and, finally, swear allegiance to the United States. Over time, most immigrants become citizens.

The Naturalization Process

Eligibility: An applicant for citizenship must be at least 18 years of age, and must have resided continuously in the U.S. as a Legal Permanent Resident for at least five years prior to filing. Permanent residents who have been married to a U.S. citizen for three years are eligible to apply for citizenship. There are special expedited provisions for immigrants serving in the armed forces during a designated period of armed conflict. Children who are adopted from another country automatically have U.S. citizenship conferred to them as long as one or both parents are U.S. citizens, the child is under 18, and the child is legally residing in the U.S. with the U.S. citizen parent or parents. Immigrants must be of "good moral character," usually determined by checking with the FBI for any record of a criminal background. A person must also demonstrate an ability to speak, read, and write ordinary English and have a general understanding of U.S. government and history. Long-time older permanent residents are exempt from the English requirement if they are 50 years or older and have been living in the U.S. for at least 20 years, or if they are 55 years or older and have been living in the U.S. for at least 15 years. These immigrants must still demonstrate knowledge of U.S. history and government, but they may do so in their native language. Certain persons with disabilities are exempt from the requirement to demonstrate knowledge of U.S. history and government.
**Interview:** After submitting an application and fee to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), an appointment is made with the applicant to take his or her fingerprints, which are checked by the FBI. An interview is then scheduled with the applicant, during which an immigration examiner reviews the application and determines if the applicant meets the requirements for U.S. citizenship. To demonstrate English proficiency and knowledge of U.S. history and government, the applicant must be prepared to answer several history and civics questions. They may also be asked to read a sentence or brief passage from a USCIS textbook, and to write a sentence dictated by the examiner.

**Oath and Swearing-In:** Approved candidates for citizenship must take an Oath of Renunciation and Allegiance, giving up foreign allegiances and titles and swearing to support and defend the Constitution and laws of the U.S. If the person has a severe disability preventing him or her from understanding, or communicating an understanding of, the meaning of the Oath, the person may obtain a waiver of the Oath requirement. The final step in the naturalization process is the swearing-in ceremony, which can take place before a judge or in an administrative ceremony.

**What Public Benefits Do Immigrants and Refugees Receive?**
- Determining whether or not an immigrant qualifies for public benefits is a complicated matter. Eligibility for benefits depends on a number of factors, among them:
  - her immigration status;
  - whether or not she entered the U.S. before or after the 1996 welfare reform law was enacted (August 22, 1996);
  - length of residence in the U.S.;
  - her income and resources and the income and resources of the family member who sponsored her;
  - history;
  - whether she is a child or adult;
  - her state of residence; and
  - the various other eligibility requirements of the particular benefits program.

Most benefits programs are open only to long-term, lawful immigrants. A small number of programs (such as school lunch programs and emergency medical services) are open to all people in need. For federal means-tested public benefits, newly-arrived legal immigrants generally are:

1. barred for their first five years in the U.S.; and
2. subject thereafter to a process called "deeming" where the income and resources of the U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident sponsor of the immigrant are added to the immigrant's own income to determine whether the immigrant is poor enough to qualify for the benefit under the program's financial guidelines.

Deeming continues until the new immigrant either becomes a citizen or works 40 "qualifying quarters" (at least 10 years). The work of a spouse (or of a parent in the case of a child under 18) also counts towards the 40 quarters. After becoming naturalized citizens, or working for 40 quarters, legal immigrants are generally eligible for federal and state programs provided they meet the general program criteria.

**Shouldn't Family Sponsors Be Responsible for the Immigrant's Care?**
They are. U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents wishing to sponsor an immigrant relative for admission to the U.S. must earn enough (125% of the poverty level for the family size, including the immigrant) to demonstrate that they are financially capable of supporting the immigrant so that the immigrant does not need to rely on public benefits. They also must sign a legally-enforceable affidavit of support. This document makes the sponsor liable for the immigrant's use of means-tested benefits until the arriving immigrant obtains citizenship or works 40 "qualifying quarters" (at least 10 years) without using means-tested services.

**Are Undocumented Immigrants Entitled to Any Federal Government Services?**
While immigrants who are not here legally are ineligible for nearly all federal benefits, they are still eligible for certain very basic kinds of assistance, including: emergency Medicaid, immunizations, testing and treatment for the symptoms of communicable diseases, short-term non-cash disaster relief, school lunches and breakfasts, and certain other programs essential to public health and safety.
Basic Facts About In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students\textsuperscript{2, 3}

Sixteen (16) states currently have laws permitting certain undocumented students who have attended and graduated from their primary and secondary schools to pay the same tuition as their classmates at public institutions of higher education. Those states are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Two additional states, Oklahoma and Rhode Island, allow in-state tuition rates to undocumented students through Board of Regents decision. Five of these states allow state financial aid—California, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas and Washington. A majority of America’s undocumented immigrants live in these states, and several other states are considering a similar change. In many of the states that have already done so, support has been strongly bipartisan and the vote lopsided in favor of the bill.

Requirements of These Laws
To qualify, the states that have such laws generally require the students to have:
1. attended a school in the state for a certain number of years;
2. graduated from high school in the state; and
3. signed an affidavit stating that they have either applied to legalize their status or will do so as soon as eligible.

These laws generally provide that U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who meet these requirements but no longer live in the state are able to qualify for the same tuition rate.

Intent and Impact of These Laws
These bills are primarily intended to help children of immigrants who were brought to the U.S. by their parents and worked hard in school with the hope of going to college but then discover that they face insurmountable obstacles. Currently, public colleges and universities are inconsistent in their treatment of such students. A few schools deny them admission. If they are admitted, students in most states are charged out-of-state tuition, which is several times the in-state tuition rate. They are not eligible for federal financial aid, and the average income of parents of such children is low. Even those who are eligible for in-state tuition almost always have to work at full-time jobs throughout their college careers. In the current context, very few of these students attend college. Experience in the states that have passed in-state tuition bills suggests that such legislation does not deprive the states of the revenue from large numbers of students who would otherwise pay out-of-state tuition. Rather, it raises the percentage of high school graduates who pursue a college degree.

Fairness to the Young People Involved
As has been true of immigrants in the past, these students tend to be hard-working and goal-oriented, with high academic standing. Many of them do not realize until they are in the process of applying to college that they will not be able to attend. High school counselors have testified about the terrible task of breaking the news to the students that the dreams for which they have worked so hard cannot come true. Many parents are concerned that if their hard-working, earnest sons and daughters are unable to go forward, their discouragement might lead to problems.

\textsuperscript{2} Updated June 2014

\textsuperscript{3} The information in this section is from the National Immigration Law Center [http://www.nilc.org/basic-facts-instate.html]
Benefits to the State
According to experts in the states that have already passed this legislation, the cost of implementation has been negligible. In-state tuition is not the same as free tuition. It is a discount, but in fact the money paid by these students actually tends to increase school revenues because it represents income that would not otherwise be there. The bottom line is that our economic future depends on educating these young people.

These young immigrants are key to our ability to counteract the serious demographic challenges we face. As baby boomers age, the number of retirees in the U.S. will swell. We are all aware that we can no longer compete with the rest of the world for low-wage jobs. We must raise the caliber of our workforce through higher education to have a chance to maintain a strong economy. Each person who attends college and obtains a professional job means one less drain on the social service (and possibly criminal justice) budgets of the state and an asset in terms of payment of taxes and the attraction to the state of high-wage employers seeking well-educated workers.

Currently, only about 5 to 10 percent of undocumented young people who graduate from high school go on to college, compared with about 75 percent of their classmates.

Why These Students Are Undocumented
Some people have asked why the students involved do not apply for a “green card” to legalize their status. The answer is that most of them would love to apply but that in the overwhelming majority of cases they cannot. The legal grounds for such petitions have narrowed to the point where it is almost impossible. The most likely outcome for a student who tries to apply is deportation of his entire family — sometimes to a “home” nation the student cannot remember.

Fully Complies with Federal Law
Contrary to the claims of immigration restrictionists, federal law does not prohibit states from providing in-state tuition to undocumented immigrants. Such a prohibition would have been simple to write, but Congress declined to do so. Rather, section 505 of the Illegal Immigrant Reform and Immigrant Reconciliation Act of 1996 (IIRIRA) prohibits states from providing any higher education benefit based on residence to undocumented immigrants unless they provide the same benefit to U.S. citizens in the same circumstances, regardless of their residence.

As discussed above, the states that provide in-state tuition to students regardless of status have fully complied with this provision.

Not a Loophole
It is often stated that these states are “getting around” the federal law, or that they are taking advantage of a “loophole” in the federal law. This is slanted language. The law is very specific. It does not preclude states from providing in-state tuition to undocumented residents of the state as long as nonresidents in similar circumstances also qualify. The states that have passed in-state tuition laws are complying with this law, not getting around it.

What about U.S. Citizens Who Want to Go to College?
Where state proposals have been defeated, anti-immigrant forces have scored rhetorical points by highlighting the competition between immigrants and other applicants for scarce higher education dollars. It should be remembered that the numerical impact of in-state tuition is minimal: Less than 2 percent of this year’s graduating class are undocumented immigrants, and only a fraction of these will attend college even if they are able to pay the in-state rate. In most states, we are talking about only a few dozen or a few hundred particularly talented students. The shortage of education dollars is real, but it is patently unfair to burden motivated and high-achieving immigrant youth with this responsibility. Education quickly pays for itself. It is a benefit to society, not just to those who go to school. And it strongly behooves us to fund education sufficiently so that all who are qualified may complete their education.
Holding back immigrant students is the wrong way to boost the ambitions of others.

**Won’t the Federal DREAM Act Solve This Problem?**

Broadly supported legislation known as the DREAM Act (S.952, H.R.1842) is included in the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013 (S. 744), which was passed by the Senate this year. The DREAM Act would provide a path to legal status for individuals who are undocumented, even though they were brought to the U.S. years ago as children and have lived most of their lives here. It would also repeal the provision of law discussed above that limits the ways in which states that wish to provide in-state tuition to undocumented residents may structure such laws, by requiring them to provide the same benefits to eligible students who do not reside in the state.

But although the DREAM Act eliminates this barrier, it does not require states to provide in-state tuition to any undocumented immigrants. Therefore, even after the DREAM Act passes, each state will have to determine for itself whether to do so.
Process of Applying to College in Texas and Out of State

Included in this section:

- Checklist for Applying to College as an Undocumented Student
- Sample Apply Texas Application with Annotations
- Applying for Dual Credit
- Applying out of state and undocu-friendly institutions
# Checklist for Applying to College as an Undocumented Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Register and take the SAT and/or ACT</strong> college admissions tests. <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a> <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a></td>
<td>These tests are offered several times per year on Saturdays. Request that your scores be sent to the universities/colleges you are applying to. If you receive free or reduced lunch, ask your counselor for a fee waiver so you don’t have to pay for the test, should you be eligible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| | Determine colleges you will apply to and obtain an application for admission. If applying to Texas public institution, use the [Apply Texas online application](http://www.applytexas.org) even if you are not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org) | Applications are available on college’s websites and in their admissions offices. If you are considering a private institution, contact the admissions office to see whether you can submit an online application. If filling out the Apply Texas Application:  
  - When asked for a social security number, leave it blank. If you have an SSN through DACA, do NOT use it for college applications, unless the university tells you it is okay. You will be assigned a Student ID number.  
  - When asked for visa information, answer accurately. DO NOT LIE.  
  - Make sure you answer YES to the question that says “Have you resided in Texas in the last 36 months of high school” if this is true for you.  
  - When asked if you are a legal Texas Resident, answer YES if you have lived in Texas 12 months or more.  
  - If you are labeled an international student, you have done something wrong! Go back and check your answers! |
| | Obtain an SB 1528 Affidavit of Intent | When filling out the Apply Texas application, make sure to print this form. You will need one for each institution you are applying to. If you are applying to a private university, either ask your High School Counselor for it, or call the admissions office, and explain that you are an SB1528 student and will need an “Affidavit of Intent”. Note that some institutions will prefer that you use an Affidavit of Intent that they will provide to you on their institution letterhead. |
| | Fill out “Affidavit of Intent” and have it notarized by a notary public. | Check to see if there is a notary at your high school; otherwise you will need to go to another location, such as a bank or tax preparation place. A notary should not change more than $6 per document. The Notary will need to see a photo ID, like your school ID. Do NOT fill out the form until you are with the Notary. You will need one original notarized form for each college you are applying to. This form will make you eligible to pay in-state tuition and receive state financial aid. |
| | Submit your application to each university before the deadline | 1. If using an online application, make sure you press the SUBMIT button. If available, submit your essays, resume, and letters of recommendation through the online application.  
  2. Mail the following supporting documents to the admissions office of each institution:  
    a) official sealed high school transcript  
    b) application fee (or fee waiver)  
    c) notarized Affidavit of Intent. Make sure the college has received your SAT and/or ACT scores  
    |
| | Follow up with the universities to make sure all of your application materials were received | Even if you or your counselor mail items to the universities you are applying to, they are not guaranteed to be received. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure everything they need is in their office by the specified deadlines. Check your online portal, call or email your admissions officers. |
| | Print out the checklist for applicants. | Typically after a student applies, schools have a To-Do Checklist. This includes housing applications, registration for orientation, among other things. It is very important you pay attention to all of the requirements from each school. |
Sample of Apply Texas Application

Undocumented students should choose the “Freshman, U.S” option on the drop-down menu. (They are not applying as international students).

Undocumented students should leave the box blank for social security number. (They should not enter a list of 9 zeros, X’s or put their DACA SSN, unless university has requested they do so)
Students should answer truthfully about their place of birth.

Do not say YES, unless they have a Notice of Action

Students should answer all questions about citizenship and visa status honestly. Assure students that this information stays with the college admissions office and is not shared with U.S. immigration offices.
Question 8d is important. Undocumented students establish their Texas residency (and thus become eligible for Texas grant funds) by checking that yes, they have lived in Texas for 36 consecutive months. They also must submit a notarized affidavit, linked here.

UTSA asks specific questions about the student’s immigration and documentation status. These questions are optional and students should feel no need to answer them.
The following are two slightly different versions of the SB1528 affidavit. They are both valid and can be used. Some institutions may require students to fill in some supplemental documentation for their internal purposes. Students will need an original notarized copy for each institution they are applying to. Therefore students will need multiple blank copies of this document.

This is a copy of the affidavit found when clicking on the link on Question 8d. Student must complete and have notarized. Admissions offices need this document to process the application. It may be necessary to send a copy of an affidavit to the Financial Aid office as well. It is good practice to keep an extra copy for safe keeping just in case.
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ________________

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public, on this day personally appeared

__________________________________________,

known to me, who being by me duly sworn upon his/her oath, deposed and said:

1. My name is _____________________________________________.
   I am _____ years of age and have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and they
   are all true and correct.

2. I graduated or will graduate from a Texas high school or received my GED certificate in
   Texas.

3. I resided in Texas for three years leading up to graduation from high school or receiving my
   GED certificate.

4. I have resided or will have resided in Texas for the 12 months prior the census date of the
   semester in which I will enroll in _________________________________.
      (name of college)

5. I have filed or will file an application to become a permanent resident at the earliest
   opportunity that I am eligible to do so.

In witness whereof, this ____________ day of ___________________________.

__________________________________________
          (Signature)

__________________________________________
          (Printed Name)

__________________________________________
          (Student I.D. #)

__________________________________________
          (Student Date of Birth)

SUBSCRIBED TO AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, on the _________________ day of

___________________________________________. ________________________________, to

certify which witness my hand and official seal.

__________________________________________
          Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
Many undocumented students are hesitant to list their employment. While it is ultimately the student’s choice of what to put down here, we have heard from many college admissions officers that it is in the student’s best interest to list their jobs. Again, it is good to remind the students that the admissions office is not sharing this information with the U.S. government.

To claim Texas residency and qualify for Texas grant funds, students must have lived in Texas for 36 consecutive months leading up to high school graduation or GED completion and resided in Texas the year prior to enrollment in an institution of higher education.
Dual Credit Courses/ Early Education Courses at Austin Community College

What is Dual Credit?

Dual Credit

a. Dual credit is earned when students complete college credit courses with acceptable grades, the approval of their high school, and then use these college credit courses to satisfy high school graduation requirements.

b. Each school district determines what college credit courses they will accept as dual credit and how they will satisfy high school graduation requirements. It is important to check with your school district for the most current list of approved dual credit courses.

Retrieved from: http://www.austincc.edu/ecs/about/what_is_ecs.php

How to enroll as an undocumented student?

Visit an ACC campus and visit with an advisor. You will be assigned an ID number which you will use instead of a social security number. With this number you will be able to register as an ACC student and enroll for eligible dual credit courses.

How much do these courses cost?

Tuition and fees are waived for Early College Start students who enroll in an ACC core curriculum course, workforce course required for an ACC workforce certificate or degree, foreign language, or KINE 1304 & KINE 1305 and who reside in the ACC tax district that includes: Austin, Del Valle, Elgin, Hays, Leander, Manor, and Round Rock school districts, and those portions of the Pflugerville and Eanes school districts that pay property taxes to the City of Austin. ECS students will be limited to a total of 12 ACC course tuition/fee waivers. Any course taken once the 12 course limit is reached or not eligible for the ECS tuition and fees waiver will be assessed regular tuition and fees based on the student's residency. Course(s) dropped after the add/drop period for that session will count toward the 12 course tuition/fee waivers and towards the 2 course per semester limit.

Early College Start students residing outside the ACC tax district but within the ACC service area are charged a per-course fee of $75 for courses taken at ACC campuses or through distance learning for courses that are ECS tuition and fees waiver eligible.

Books, additional class supplies, and parking fees are not waived and are the responsibility of the student and can average $100 per course.

Retrieved from: http://www.austincc.edu/ecs/students/faqs.php
Applying Out of State

Things to ask or look for:

- Does the state have in-state tuition equity? Does that state award undocumented students state aid? Does the state ban enrollment for undocumented students?
- Check out the International Office website and see if they have information for Undocumented Students.
- What is the format of the university application? Is the application on Common App? Do they have their own application? Do not put your DACA social on the application unless otherwise directed.
- Call Financial Aid and see if there is a point person that awards financial aid to undocumented students or students that have DACA(Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals).
- Does the university require FAFSA or would they accept the CSS Profile? Undocumented students can fill out the FAFSA but are not awarded government aid. Citizenship is not required to fill out the CSS Profile and is normally what most international students fill this form out.
- Is there an organization that supports undocumented students on that campus? I.e. ULI, United We Dream, LULAC, MALDEF
- If possible, visit the campus and talk to various support offices to see what services they offer to undocumented students.

Picture Source: [http://unitedwedream.org/about/projects/education-deep/](http://unitedwedream.org/about/projects/education-deep/)
## Undocu-friendly Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Financial Assistance for Undocumented Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amherst College</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Comprehensive program of financial aid that provides assistance in the form of scholarships and grants, loans, and student employment. Both freshmen and transfer applicants need to complete the CSS PROFILE and submit income/wage documentation. Aid covers most but not all costs for very few students. 10% are non-U.S. citizens. Freshmen and transfers: <a href="https://www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid/international_students/appleton">https://www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid/international_students/appleton</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bard College</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Considered as international students. 21% are international, which includes undocumented. Grants are awarded on the basis of financial need, academic achievement and promise. Scholarships range from $5,000 to $25,000 for full-time enrollment. File Certification of Finances and International Student Financial Aid Form. <a href="http://www.bard.edu/admission/applying/international/">http://www.bard.edu/admission/applying/international/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bates College</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Will meet the full need of the student for the duration of his/her college career if admitted. Must apply for financial aid when applying for admission. Must complete the Bates Financial Statement for International Students and send a Wage Statement from each working parent's employer. No financial assistance for transfer students. <a href="http://www.bates.edu/admission/apply/international-students/">http://www.bates.edu/admission/apply/international-students/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowdoin College</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Eligibility for grant assistance is &quot;need-based,&quot; determined through analysis of income, asset and tax information submitted on the CSS Profile and federal income tax returns. Does not offer merit based scholarships or grants of any kind. Competition for funding is intense and funding is limited. Financial aid is very occasionally available for transfer students and the competition is quite intense. <a href="http://www.bowdoin.edu/admissions/apply/international-students.shtml">http://www.bowdoin.edu/admissions/apply/international-students.shtml</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown University</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>Must self-identify as undocumented and request aid at time of application submission. Should apply for financial aid at the time of admission. Eligibility for the aid is solely based in financial need (will meet 100% of the need) <a href="http://www.brown.edu/about/administration/financial-aid/first-year-applicants">http://www.brown.edu/about/administration/financial-aid/first-year-applicants</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryn Mawr College</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Awards need-based financial aid. Possible to meet 100% of need for undocumented freshmen, but partial help for transfers. <a href="https://www.brynmawr.edu/admissions/first-year-faqs">https://www.brynmawr.edu/admissions/first-year-faqs</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carleton College</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Considered international students. Each year we consider applications from students living in the United States without documentation of U.S. citizenship or legal permanent residency. Because of our limited financial resources, we must consider these undocumented students among all international applicants applying for aid. Undocumented students are eligible for Carleton-based grants and loans. Students with DACA status are considered among all other legal permanent residents and U.S. citizens. <strong>Up to six full scholarships</strong> covering Carleton's comprehensive fee, including tuition, room and board. <strong>Up to six partial scholarships</strong> with a maximum value of one-half of Carleton's comprehensive fee. <a href="https://apps.carleton.edu/admissions/international/undocumented/">https://apps.carleton.edu/admissions/international/undocumented/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colby College</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Must apply as international student. Few international students admitted a year. Rare for an undocumented student to qualify. <a href="https://www.colby.edu/admission/finaid/">https://www.colby.edu/admission/finaid/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the Holy Cross</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td><strong>Meets all need.</strong> Check with college about policies for students. <a href="http://admissions.holycross.edu/financial-aid">http://admissions.holycross.edu/financial-aid</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of William and Mary</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut University</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Must apply as international students. Few merit-based scholarships. <a href="https://www.conncoll.edu/admission/tuition-fees/international-students/">https://www.conncoll.edu/admission/tuition-fees/international-students/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Must apply as international students. Need-blind admissions, but doesn’t not meet need of all international students. No aid for international transfers. <a href="http://www.finaid.cornell.edu/sites/finaid.cornell.edu/files/International-FinAid-FAQs.pdf">http://www.finaid.cornell.edu/sites/finaid.cornell.edu/files/International-FinAid-FAQs.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth College</td>
<td>New Hampshie</td>
<td>Provides financial aid for undocumented students. The university meets full need of students with employment, scholarships and/or loans. Freshmen must complete the CSS Profile and the College Board’s Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC). Transfers must complete CSS Profile, Parent’s U.S. tax return and Student’s tax return. <a href="http://admissions.dartmouth.edu/financial-aid/apply-aid/prospective-transfer-students/how-apply-aid/undocumented-students">http://admissions.dartmouth.edu/financial-aid/apply-aid/prospective-transfer-students/how-apply-aid/undocumented-students</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson College</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>A limited number of international students receive financial assistance each year. The assistance is based on a combination of financial aid and merit. When applying, make sure to note that you are ‘undocumented’ or a non-U.S. citizen and the citizenship of your birth. Must complete the CSS Profile, the International Student Financial Aid Application and the Certification of Finances. Also pursue the merit-based scholarship opportunities. <a href="http://www.davidson.edu/admission-and-financial-aid/how-to-apply/international-students">http://www.davidson.edu/admission-and-financial-aid/how-to-apply/international-students</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Must apply as international student. Must apply for financial aid while applying for admission Eligibility for aid is based solely on financial need. Will meet 100% of demonstrated need. Are eligible for merit scholarships Information about admission: <a href="http://admissions.duke.edu/application/instructions#general-instruct-international">http://admissions.duke.edu/application/instructions#general-instruct-international</a> Information about financial aid: <a href="http://admissions.duke.edu/application/aid#need-based-aid-foreign-national">http://admissions.duke.edu/application/aid#need-based-aid-foreign-national</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican University</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Not considered international students, just undocumented students. Need-based financial aid available. Also eligible for scholarships after they apply for admission. <a href="http://www.dom.edu/admission/undergraduate/scholarships">http://www.dom.edu/admission/undergraduate/scholarships</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>DACA Dreamers can apply for merit-based and scholarships. <a href="http://www.emory.edu/FINANCIAL_AID/undergraduates/">http://www.emory.edu/FINANCIAL_AID/undergraduates/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield University</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Full-time day undergraduate international and undocumented students are encouraged to apply for financial aid using the College Board’s CSS Profile. This application should be submitted by the stated deadline. Recipients of the Fairfield Tuition Grant will be notified during the first week of April. Students will be automatically considered for any merit-based scholarships on the basis of their admission application. <a href="http://www.fairfield.edu/admissionaid/financialaidtuition/undergraduatefinancialaidtuition/financialaidpolicies/#intl">http://www.fairfield.edu/admissionaid/financialaidtuition/undergraduatefinancialaidtuition/financialaidpolicies/#intl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason University</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
<td>Considered international students. Need-based financial aid available and several merit-based scholarships for freshmen students. <a href="http://admissions.gmu.edu/costs/">http://admissions.gmu.edu/costs/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>In Georgia, undocumented individuals are not permitted to attend large, competitive public universities like the University of Georgia (UGA) or Georgia Tech. They can instead apply to colleges that have spots left after their regular applicant pool has been chosen. And they must pay expensive out-of-state tuition rates in order to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grinnell College</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Complete the International Student Application for Financial Aid and Scholarships when applying for admission. Does offer financial assistance for transfer students. <a href="https://www.grinnell.edu/about/offices-services/financial-aid/apply/international?group=29756">https://www.grinnell.edu/about/offices-services/financial-aid/apply/international?group=29756</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Undocumented students must file as international students. All financial aid and scholarships are based on need. Admission is competitive because everyone qualifies for the financial assistance. Need to file the CSS Profile or a paper submission that requires Financial Statement for Students from Foreign Countries, Parent Income Tax Return or Wage Statement, and if necessary a Business/Farm Supplement, Noncustodial Parent Information or the Estate or Trust Tax Return. <a href="https://college.harvard.edu/i-am-undocumented-am-i-still">https://college.harvard.edu/i-am-undocumented-am-i-still</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Eligibility and Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana University, Bloomington</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>By law must collect citizenship information. Do not qualify for any state aid or in state tuition. <a href="http://www.indiana.edu/~cats/kt/D-F/undocumented-students.php">http://www.indiana.edu/~cats/kt/D-F/undocumented-students.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Carroll University</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Only merit aid is awarded. Submit an application for scholarship at the same time that applying for admission. Apply as international students. <a href="http://sites.jcu.edu/international/pages/scholarship-and-aid/jcu-scholarships/">http://sites.jcu.edu/international/pages/scholarship-and-aid/jcu-scholarships/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalamazoo College</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Eligible for financial assistance and merit-based scholarships. Submit the International Student Financial Aid Application form before applying for admission. Aid does not meet all need. <a href="http://www.kzoo.edu/admission/international/faq/">http://www.kzoo.edu/admission/international/faq/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenyon College</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Considered international students. Offers financial aid in the form of scholarships, loans and on-campus employment. Does award full rides to some select undocumented students. <a href="http://www.kenyon.edu/admissions-aid/how-to-apply/international-students/">http://www.kenyon.edu/admissions-aid/how-to-apply/international-students/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette College</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Considered international students. Meets the full demonstrated financial need of international students. Must complete the CSS Profile. <a href="https://admissions.lafayette.edu/apply/international-students/">https://admissions.lafayette.edu/apply/international-students/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lehigh University</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Considered international student. Awards financial aid on the basis of demonstrated need. Merit scholarships may also be awarded on a limited basis. No application is necessary for merit scholarships. Complete the CSS Profile or International Student Financial Aid Application and the Certification of Finances. Transfer students are not eligible for need based or merit based financial aid. <a href="http://www4.lehigh.edu/admissions/undergrad/tuition/citizens.aspx">http://www4.lehigh.edu/admissions/undergrad/tuition/citizens.aspx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachussets Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Must submit CSS profile and Parents' Income Tax Return or Wage Statement. Will meet full need-based aid if admitted. <a href="http://mitadmissions.org/afford/basics">http://mitadmissions.org/afford/basics</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Holyoke College</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Considered as international applicant. Does offer financial assistance for freshmen and transfer students. Must apply for financial assistance at the same time that applies for admission. Submit CSS Profile and Parental Tax Return or Certified Verification of Total Income. Does not meet all need. <a href="https://www.mtholyoke.edu/sfs/international-0">https://www.mtholyoke.edu/sfs/international-0</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern University</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Considered international students. International students do not qualify for merit aid. Only need-based financial assistance available when applying for admission under Regular Decision. Admission decisions are need-aware, not need-blind. Complete the CSS Profile and Parents' tax return. No financial aid available for transfer students. <a href="https://www.mtholyoke.edu/sfs/international-0">https://www.mtholyoke.edu/sfs/international-0</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oberlin College</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Students are considered domestic students. Meets the full demonstrated financial need of every admitted student through a combination of grants, loans, and money earned through student employment. (Package covers about three-quarters of the cost of attendance) Less than 15% of applicants are admitted each year. Must indicate on application for admission that wants to be considered for financial aid. Must complete a CSS profile and Certification of Finances. <a href="https://oncampus.oberlin.edu/source/articles/2014/02/26/admissions-policy-undocumented-students-approved">https://oncampus.oberlin.edu/source/articles/2014/02/26/admissions-policy-undocumented-students-approved</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princeton University</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Considered international students. Full support provided! Admission is need-blind. Aid is awarded solely on basis of need. Need is met through grants, scholarships, other sources or campus jobs. Application fee waivers available. Admission is competitive. Submit the Princeton Financial Aid Application (PFAA): <a href="https://admission.princeton.edu/applyingforadmission/admission-faqs/international-students">https://admission.princeton.edu/applyingforadmission/admission-faqs/international-students</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reed College</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Considered international students. Offers financial aid to approximately 20 to 25 students in need-based. Should complete the CSS Profile and IDOC documentation. <a href="http://www.reed.edu/apply/guide-to-applying/international/international-guide.html">http://www.reed.edu/apply/guide-to-applying/international/international-guide.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ripon College, Wisconsin: Apply as international student. Eligible for merit-based scholarships. Complete and submit the Certification of Finances and include an official, notarized financial statement to this form. Eligible for an on campus job, which helps to pay for the education. Merit Based Scholarship: up to $15,000 Performance/Recognition Scholarships: up to $5,000 each (4 scholarships available). [http://www.ripon.edu/international-faqs/]

University of Texas: Considered International students and eligible for merit-based scholarships. [http://financialaid.rice.edu/]

Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania: Considered international students. No international transfer students. Financial aid decision is offered to students on the basis of their demonstrated financial need. [http://www.swarthmore.edu/admissions-aid/international-students]

Tufts University, Massachusetts: New policy to give full aid to undocumented students. [http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/07/tufts-will-recruit-provide-aid-undocumented-students/L6e9oEUxIvUXRIIQH9JQeP/story.html?event=event25]

University of Chicago, Illinois: Full aid available to undocumented students. Must apply as international students. University of Chicago students, prospective students, or school counselors working with prospective students are encouraged to reach out to Tamara Felden, the designated contact for undocumented student issues at the University, at tfelden@uchicago.edu or (773) 702-7752. [https://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/costs/international-aid]

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis: Does not offer financial aid to international students. Does offer a limited number of Global Excellence Scholarships for freshmen and transfers. No separate scholarship application is required. Does offer thousands of on- and off-campus student employment options.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Considered International Student. Will consider the admissions application for any available merit scholarships.

University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania: Only need-based financial aid is awarded when admitted.Apply as international students. (Committed to meeting 100% of student’s determined need without loans. Complete the Penn Financial Aid Supplement, the CSS Profile, and the Student’s Tax Returns. [http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lacasa/files/UndocumentedFAQs.pdf]

University of Puget Sound, Washington: Considered as international students. Does offer need-based financial aid for freshmen students. Must complete CSS Profile and Certification of Finances. [http://www.pugetsound.edu/academics/international-programs/international-students/]

University of Rochester, New York: Undocumented students, if admitted to the University of Rochester, may accept merit-based scholarships and awards that are not service-based. Additionally, some students may have secured employment authorization under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and may work during their program as a full-time student. The University’s International Services Office can assist and advise you and help you to take advantage of some of the many resources available to the international population here. We typically recommend an initial appointment with an ISO advisor upon arrival to discuss your situation and how best to achieve your academic goals at the University of Rochester. [http://www.iso.rochester.edu/study/undoc.html][http://www.iso.rochester.edu/study/undoc.html]

University of Vermont, Vermont: International scholarships available. [http://www.uvm.edu/~stdlnsv/?Page=international_scholars.html&SM=scholarshipmenu.html]

Vassar College, New York: Undocumented students are accepted and helped the same and on the basis of those that are international students. Complete CSS Profile, Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC) and Tax Returns. [http://admissions.vassar.edu/apply/answers/#undocumented]

Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri: Provides financial assistance for freshmen and transfer international students. Assistance is based on achievement, potential, and need. Submit either CSS Profile or Washington University Family Financial Profile for International Applicants: [http://admissions.wustl.edu/FinancialAssistance/international/Pages/default.aspx]

Wellesley College, Massachusetts: Need based international aid. [http://www.wellesley.edu/admission/esp/international/faq#aid]

Wesleyan University, Connecticut: Considered international students. Award financial assistance solely on the basis of financial need. Can offer assistance to approximately 15 international students. Submit the CSS Profile and Parents’ verification of income. No financial aid for transfer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Williams College</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Does provide need-based aid if admitted. Must apply as international students. Apply for the aid when applying for admission. Complete CSS Profile and Parents’ Tax Returns. <a href="http://web.williams.edu/admin/finaid/apply/international-Prospective-US/">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitman College</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Whitman College seeks to establish a vibrant community of individuals who are intellectually talented, have the potential to be leaders in and out of the classroom and are from diverse backgrounds both nationally and internationally. Recognizing that undocumented students make important contributions to the intellectual and social life of the campus, Whitman College admits and enrolls students regardless of citizenship. Whitman College uses non-governmental resources to support the academic efforts of such students who qualify for financial aid. <a href="https://www.whitman.edu/about-whitman/diversity/Statement-on-undocumented-students">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>100% of demonstrated need will be met. Both freshmen and transfers: Complete Yale Financial Aid Application, CSS Profile, and Parents’ Tax Returns. <a href="http://www.yale.edu/FinancialAid/Information/Philosophy.html">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Universities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Assistance for Undocumented Students. All qualified undocumented students qualify for state grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azusa Pacific University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Can apply for merit-based scholarships which are based on SAT and GPA. Can receive more than one scholarship, if qualified. <a href="http://www.apu.edu/international/enrollment/Requirements/">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Institute of Technology</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Need based aid given if admitted. Must apply as international student. Admission is competitive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claremont McKenna College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Must submit the CSS Profile and the Financial Certification Form. Merit scholarships are awarded to international students and range from $10,000 to full tuition. Submit the college supplement when applying for admission. <a href="https://www.claremontmckenna.edu/admission/apply/international.php">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican University of California</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>Considered AB540 students. Financial assistance is provided, but no full need is met for either freshmen or transfer students. Should submit the AB540 student form when applying for the assistance. Cal Grants Accepted. <a href="http://www.dominican.edu/admissions/aid/general-International-Aid-Information">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno Pacific University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Offers several scholarships: <a href="http://experiencefpu.com/Financial-Aid/Scholarships">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvey Mudd College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. Can receive Cal Grants. Should apply for need-based financial aid when applying for admission. Will also be considered for some merit-based scholarships at the time of admission. Should submit the CSS Profile, Certification of Finances, and IDOC documents. Transfer students are very unlikely to receive financial assistance. <a href="https://www.hmc.edu/admission/afford/international-student-financial-aid/">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola Marymount University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Not eligible for financial aid. Eligibility for scholarships can be based on academic merit, leadership, and/or talent. 5 AB540 full rides awarded per year. Will consider transfer students. All applicants for admission are automatically considered. Accepts Cal Grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mills College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. Can qualify for Cal Grants and Institutional Aid. Offers a variety of merit scholarships ranging from $5,000 to full tuition. <a href="http://www.mills.edu/student_services/Financial_Aid/info_undergraduate.php#ab540_eligible">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount St. Mary’s College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered as international students. Only partial scholarships for freshmen students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occidental College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. Provides 100% of demonstrated need to international or domestic students. Each year Occidental is only able to fully fund 2 to 4 international students. Should apply for aid at the time of admission. Explain any unusual expenses, debt, or special circumstances on the Certification of Finances and complete the International Student Financial Aid Application. Accepts Cal Grants. <a href="https://www.oxy.edu/sites/default/files/assets/Admission_Aid/CADreamActInfo.pdf">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperdine University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. No need-based aid offered. But some academic scholarships available for both freshmen and transfers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitzer College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Offers one renewable scholarship (tuition, fees, room &amp; board) for admitted AB540. Requirements are: not permanent resident or UC citizen and born in Latin American country,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
attended CA HS for 4 yrs, min. 3.5 GPA, extracurricular and leadership activities, must be nominated by HS counselor. http://tsl.pomona.edu/articles/2012/11/16/news/3360-admission-policies-for-students-with-deferred-action-differ-across-5cs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Admission Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. Financial aid is not available. But does offer 15 full ride scholarships for freshmen and transfer students. Very competitive but the most slots available at any California college. Accepts Cal Grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Students are met with full need and should apply as international students. But the financial aid is need-aware. Indicate the need of financial assistance on the admission application. Submit CSS Profile, Certification of Finances, and International Student Financial Aid Application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soka University</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Requires all students to study abroad. Unable to offer admission, unless the applicant is willing to apply for permanent residency or exit the U.S. and apply for the appropriate F-1 student visa to re-enter the U.S. <a href="http://www.soka.edu/admission_aid/Undergraduate-Admission/Apply%20Now/international_undergrad_admission/international_student_faqs.asp#anchor12">http://www.soka.edu/admission_aid/Undergraduate-Admission/Apply%20Now/international_undergrad_admission/international_student_faqs.asp#anchor12</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern California</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Considered international students. No need-based aid or application fee waivers. Accepts Cal Grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittier College</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Process of Applying for Financial Aid in Texas

Included in this section:

- Breakdown of Financial Aid Available to Undocumented Students
- Grants and Loans for Undocumented Students
- Checklist for Applying for Financial Aid as an Undocumented Student
- Financial Aid Flowchart
- Sample FAFSA and TASFA Applications with Annotation
- University Specific Responses to Financial Aid Questions
# Financial Aid Available to Undocumented Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>U. S. Citizen (holds a US passport of US Birth certificate)</th>
<th>Legal Permanent Resident (holds a green card)</th>
<th>Visa Holder (holds a valid visa)</th>
<th>Undocumented (holds no documentation or has pending application with USCIS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Aid</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work study</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas State Aid (in form of grants)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes (Texas Grant, Texas Educational Opportunity Grant, and Texas Public Education Grant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Loans</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, but will need a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident as co-signer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Loans</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, but will need a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident as co-signer</td>
<td>Yes, but will need a U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident as co-signer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX Institutional Aid</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Depends on visa holding, and if school attending is public or private</td>
<td>Yes, depends on each school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, depends on eligibility requirements</td>
<td>Yes, private scholarships awarded by businesses, service agencies or philanthropic organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships (graduate school)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grants and Loans Available to Undocumented Students

**TEXAS GRANT**

The award amount (including state and institutional funds) cannot be greater than the student’s tuition and required fees.

For 2015-2016, the maximum amount is:

- $8,400 per year for public universities and state college students
- $2,736 per year for public community college students
- $4,438 per year for public technical college students

**Eligible Institutions:** Beginning in 2014-15 only public universities and health-related institutions will be awarding TEXAS grants to first-year students that meet the criteria. Public community colleges, public technical colleges, and state colleges (Lamar State College at Orange, Lamar State College at Port Arthur, and Lamar Institute of Technology) will no longer be awarding TEXAS grants to first-year students. Only continuing students that previously received TEXAS grant and meet all qualifications will be eligible to receive a renewal TEXAS Grant.

**Initial Year Requirements:**

- Be a Texas resident,
- Have not been convicted of a felony or crime involving a controlled substance,
- Show financial need with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of no more than $4800, and
- Register for the Selective Service or be exempt from this requirement.

**AND**

- Be enrolled at least three-quarter time as an undergraduate in a baccalaureate program who:
  - Graduated of an accredited high school in Texas
  - Completed the Foundation, Recommended, or Distinguished Achievement high school program (or the equivalent)
  - Enrolled in an undergraduate degree or certificate program in Texas within 16 months of graduation from a public or accredited private high school in Texas and
  - Have accumulated no more than 30 semester credit hours, excluding those earned for dual or concurrent courses or awarded for credit by examination (AP, IB or CLEP).
  **OR**
  - Have earned an associate degree from a public technical, state or community college in Texas, and
  - Enrolled in any public university in Texas no more than 12 months after receiving the associate’s degree; **OR**
  - Transfers into a public university in Texas with at least 24 SCH’s and a minimum 2.5 GPA, and
  - received an initial year Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) in Fall 2014 or later.

To receive priority consideration for an initial Year award a student must:

- Graduate from an accredited high school in Texas May 1, 2013 or later and enroll in a public university of health-related institution in Texas,
- Meet the initial Year requirements (above)
- Meet the state priority application deadline of March 15, **AND**

---

• Meet at least one requirement in at least 2 of the following areas:
  o **Advanced Academic Program**: 12 hours of college credit (dual credit or AP), complete the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) or complete the International Baccalaureate Program (IB)
  o **TSI Readiness**: Meet the Texas Success Initiatives (TSI) assessment thresholds or qualify for an exemption
  o **Class standing**: Graduate in top one/third of the HS graduating class or have a B average
  o **Advanced Math**: Complete at least one math course beyond Algebra II as determined by TEA

**Renewal Year Requirements:**
• Be enrolled at least three-quarter time as:
  o An undergraduate who previously received an initial-year award prior to Fall 2014, OR
  o An undergraduate enrolled in a baccalaureate program who received an intitial year away in Fall 2014 or later.
• Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.

**Duration:**
• Students entering the program from high school who continue enrolled in a public university and who meet SAP requirements can receive awards for up to 150 semester credit hours, until they receive a bachelor’s degree, or for five years if enrolled in a 4-year degree plan or six years if enrolled in a 5-year degree plan, whichever comes first.
• Students entering the program based on acquisition of an associate's degree who continue enrolled and meet SAP can receive awards for up to 90 semester credit hours, until they receive a bachelor's degree, or for three years if enrolled in a 4-year degree plan or four years if enrolled in a 5-year degree plan, whichever comes first.
• Students entering the program as a transfer student with 24 semester credit hours, a 2.5 GPA and an initial year TEOG award in fall 2014 or later, and meet SAP can receive awards up to completion of a bachelor’s degree. The calculation for semester credit hours or years of eligibility has not been determined by the THECB. Update will be made available by THECB.

**TEXAS PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL GRANT (TPEG)**

**Award Amount:** No individual award may be more than the student’s financial need. Each institution might set its own maximum award amount
**Eligible Institutions:** Only Texas public colleges and universities

**Initial Requirements:**
• Are Texas residents, non-residents or foreign students
• Show financial need
• Register for the Selective Service or are exempt from this requirement

**TUITION EQUALIZATION GRANT (TEG)**

**Award Amount:**
The program maximum is $3,364 per school year. However, undergraduate students with exceptional need (those whose Expected Family Contributions are less than or equal to $1,000) may receive awards of up to $5,046 in a given year. Awards may not exceed the student’s financial need or the amount of tuition the student is paying in excess of what he or she would pay at a public institution.

**Eligible Institutions:** Private, non-profit colleges or universities in Texas.
**Initial Requirements:**
- Are Texas residents or are non-resident National Merit Finalists
- Show financial need
- Are not receiving athletic scholarships
- Enroll on at least a ¾ time basis
- Register for the Selective Service or are exempt from this requirement.
- Are enrolled in an eligible institution in Texas in a degree plan leading to a first associate's, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degree
- Are required to pay more tuition than they would pay to attend a public institution

**Renewal Requirements:**
Earn and maintain an overall college GPA of at least a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and complete at least 24 credit hours per year.

**TEXAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT PROGRAM (TEOG)**

The maximum award amount for 2014-2015 is

- $8,000 per year for public state college students
- $2,700 per year for public community college students
- $4,700 per year for public technical college students

**Eligible Institutions:** Public community colleges, technical colleges, or state colleges in Texas (Lamar State College at Orange, Lamar State College at Port Arthur, and Lamar Institute of Technology)

**Initial Requirements:**
- Are Texas residents
- Show financial need
- If applying for a first-time award, have a family contribution of no more than $2,000
- Register for the Selective Service or are exempt from this requirement
- Are enrolled at least 1/2 time (6 semester credit hours) in the first 30 hours (or their equivalent) in an associate's degree or certificate program at a public two-year college in Texas
- Have not been granted an associate's or a baccalaureate degree
- Have not been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance.
  - An individual convicted of a crime involving a controlled substance can compete for an award in this program two years after he/she has fulfilled his/her obligation to society.

**Renewal Requirements:**
- At the end of the first year, the student must meet the school's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.
- At the end of the second year, the student must complete at least 75 percent of the hours attempted in the prior academic year and have an overall college grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

**Duration:** Students who continue in college and who meet program academic standards can receive awards for up to 75 semester credit hours, for four years, or until they receive an associate's degree, whichever comes first.
TOP 10% SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The maximum award for 2014-2015 is $1,000 (for renewal awards) and $600 (for initial awards).

Important: This grant is contingent upon the availability of state funds and will be cancelled or reduced in the event state funds are no longer available.

Eligible Institutions: Texas public colleges and universities

Initial Requirements:
- Be a Texas resident
- Demonstrate financial need (to be determined by the college or university financial aid office)
- Complete Recommended or Distinguished Achievement HS curriculum
- Rank in the top 10 percent (as of his/her 7th semester or 6th if the college uses that semester for admissions)
- Graduate from an accredited high school in Texas
- Enroll fulltime in a Texas public 2-year or 4-year college or university

Renewal Requirements:
- Complete 30 semester credit hours (SCH) in the previous year
- Maintain cumulative 3.25 GPA
- Complete at least 75% of hours attempted

COLLEGE ACCESS LOAN (CAL)

What is CAL? The College Access Loan (CAL) Program provides an alternative type of educational loans to Texas students. Students do not have to demonstrate financial need to receive these loans, which may be used to cover all or part of a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Deduct your aid from the cost of attending your school to determine the amount of the CAL loan you could receive.

Award Amount: Students may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid.

Recipient Requirements:
- Be a Texas resident
- Be enrolled in a course of study leading to an associate's or higher degree at least half-time or an approved Alternative Educator Certification Program
- Meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements set by the institution
- Receive a favorable credit evaluation or provide a cosigner who has good credit standing and meets other requirements.

Cosigner Requirements:
- Be at least 21 years of age,
- Have a regular source of income,
- Not be the borrower or the spouse of the borrower,
- Receive a favorable credit evaluation, and
- Be a permanent U.S. resident or a U.S. citizen and reside in the U.S. or in a U.S. territory.

Financial Details
- Interest Rate: A fixed annual rate of 5.25% (as of Fall 201)
  - Interest is not capitalized
Fees deducted from each College Access Loan:
- A 3% origination fee if both the borrower and cosigner have a good credit standing, or
- A 5% origination fee if either the borrower or cosigner, but not both, has a good credit standing.
- No guarantee fees or insurance premiums will be associated with the loan. Its interest is never capitalized. The loan will not be sold to another lender; The Coordinating Board will service the loan until it is paid in full.

Repayment
College Access Loans have a six-month grace period before repayment begins.
Loan balances under $30,000 have a ten-year repayment period with minimum monthly payments of $50.
Balances of $30,000 or more are paid over 20 years.
Postponements of loan repayment and income-sensitive or graduated repayment schedules are available.

How can I apply?
- You can apply online by going to www.hhloans.com.
- A Social Security number is required to login to the online application. If the student does not have a Social Security Number, email the Higher Education Coordinating Board loan services from the website requesting they assign you a number to substitute for a Social Security Number. THECB Loan Services department: In Austin, dial 512-427-6340. If you're outside of Austin, you can call toll-free at 800-242-3062.
## Checklist for Applying for Financial Aid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓ OBJECTION</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make sure your parents are filing taxes with an <strong>ITIN number</strong></td>
<td>An ITIN Number is unique from a social security and allows your parents/guardians to file their taxes each year. You will use these taxes when you apply for the TASFA and FAFSA. If your parents do not file taxes, direct them to Foundation Communities, where they can assist you in acquiring an ITIN number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register for <strong>selective service</strong> if you are a male over age 18.</td>
<td>All men living in the United States who are between the ages of 17 and 3 months and 25 must be registered with the Selective Service. Even those without a social security number must register. Most universities and colleges will not finalize financial aid without proof of registration. Those without a social security number need to use a paper form. These are available at the post office. Simply fill out the card, sign it, stamp, and mail. A registration acknowledgment card will arrive in the mail about 30 to 90 days after a man sends in his registration card. Keep this document in a safe place as proof of registration. Most financial aid offices will request a copy of your registration card. If you do not receive a card, or if you require a replacement acknowledgment card, please call Selective Service at 1-847-688-6888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply for financial aid using <strong>paper FAFSA and/or TASFA forms</strong> as early as possible after Jan 1.</td>
<td>You will only be eligible for state financial aid. Without a SSN you cannot complete the online FAFSA application. Find out from the list on the last pages of the TASFA application or the respective college or university’s financial aid office which application they prefer. You can obtain a paper FAFSA or TASFA through your high school counseling office or online as a PDF document. Both applications have to be printed out and completed on paper, and turned in, in person, or via mail to the financial aid office of the institution. DO NOT MAIL to the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turn in <strong>additional financial aid documents</strong>.</td>
<td>Each school has different financial aid requirements. Be sure you visit each school’s website and make sure you turn in all required documents. (ex. ACC has their own application in addition to the TASFA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Follow up</strong> on your application process. CALL the FINANCIAL AID OFFICE!</td>
<td>TASFA Applications are routinely lost. It is YOUR responsibility to call the financial aid office and ensure they have all of the required documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Request a Tax Transcript</strong></td>
<td>Go to the IRS website to request this online. If it is not ready yet, continue checking each week, until it is available. <a href="http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript">http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Submit copies of Tax Transcripts</strong> to each college you apply to.</td>
<td>Not every school will require this document, but it will not hurt to submit it. Do not submit the original!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Applying for Financial Aid Flow Chart**

**US CITIZENS/PERMANENT RESIDENTS:**

Make sure parents/guardian have a SSN or ITIN & ARE FILING TAXES

GET FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) WORKSHEET from counselors In English/Spanish

COLLECT PERSONAL DATA
2014 W-2’s & financial data
2014 Tax Return, if parents file
Other documentation of cash income

FILL OUT FAFSA ONLINE www.fafsa.ed.gov

STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR) determines ESTIMATED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC) - U.S. Dept. of Ed. sends to you & your chosen colleges

FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE
Based on EFC, colleges offer you a financial aid package (grants, scholarships, loans & work-study)

REVIEW FINANCIAL AID PACKAGES
Compare financial aid packages from colleges & make decision by deadline date set by colleges

**UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS:**

Make sure parents/guardian have an ITIN number & are FILING TAXES.

GET TASFA (Texas Application for State Financial Aid) and/or GET FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

**These students only qualify for state financial aid

COLLECT PERSONAL DATA
Past year’s W-2’s & financial data
Past year’s Tax Return, if parents file
Other documentation of cash income

If TASFA: Download, fill out on computer & print forms www.collegefortexans.com
If FAFSA: Fill out paper copies by hand MAIL/HAND-IN FORMS DIRECTLY TO YOUR CHOSEN COLLEGE(S)

Request TAX RETURN TRANSCRIPT from IRS Turn into each college with TASFA/FAFSA

ESTIMATED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC) will be determined by your chosen colleges

FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE
Based on EFC, colleges offer you a financial aid package (grants, scholarships & loans)

REVIEW FINANCIAL AID PACKAGES
Compare financial aid packages from colleges & make decision by deadline date set by colleges
Sample FAFSA

FAFSA™
FREE APPLICATION for FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Use this form to apply free for federal and state student grants, work-study and loans. Or apply free online at www.fafsa.gov.

Applying by the Deadlines
For federal aid, submit your application as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2014. We must receive your application no later than June 30, 2015. Your college must have your correct, complete information by your last day of enrollment in the 2014-2015 school year.

For state or college aid, the deadline may be as early as January 2014. See the table to the right for state deadlines. You may also need to complete additional forms.

Check with your high school guidance counselor or a financial aid administrator at your college about state and college sources of student aid and deadlines.

If you are filing close to one of these deadlines, we recommend you file online at www.fafsa.gov. This is the fastest and easiest way to apply for aid.

Using Your Tax Return
We recommend that you complete and submit your FAFSA as soon as possible on or after January 1, 2014. If you (or your parents) need to file a 2013 income tax return with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and have not done so yet, you can submit your FAFSA now using estimated tax information, and then you must correct that information after you file your return.

The easiest way to complete or correct your FAFSA with accurate tax information is by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool through www.fafsa.gov. In a few simple steps, most students and parents who filed a 2013 tax return can view and transfer their tax return information directly into their FAFSA.

Note: Both parents or both the student and spouse may need to report income information on the FAFSA if they did not file a joint tax return for 2013. For assistance with answering the income information questions in this situation, call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

Filling Out the FAFSA™
If you or your family experienced significant changes to your financial situation (such as loss of employment), complete this form to the extent you can and submit it as instructed. Consult with the financial aid office at the college(s) you applied to or plan to attend.

For help in filling out the FAFSA, go to studentaid.gov/completefafsa or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). TTY users (for the hearing impaired) may call 1-800-730-8913.

Fill the answer fields directly on your screen or print the form and complete it by hand. Your answers will be read electronically; therefore if you complete the form by hand:

- use black ink and fill in circles completely:
  - print clearly in CAPITAL letters and skip a box between words:
  - report dollar amounts (such as $12,356.41) like this:

Blue is for student information and purple is for parent information.

Mailing Your FAFSA™
After you complete this application, make a copy of pages 3 through 8 for your records. Then mail the original pages 3 through 8 to:

Federal Student Aid Programs, P.O. Box 4692, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864-4692.

**Undocumented students will NOT be mailing their FAFSA to the government. Not all institutions accept a paper FAFSA. Students should call each institution to see which financial aid application is preferred.**
Notes for question 8 (page 3)
Enter your Social Security Number (SSN). If you are a resident of the Freely Associated States (i.e., the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia) and were issued an identification number beginning with “666’’ when submitting a FAFSA previously, enter that number here. If you are a first-time applicant from the Freely Associated States, enter “666” in the first three boxes of the SSN field and leave the remaining six positions blank and we will create an identification number to be used for federal student aid purposes.

Notes for questions 14 and 15 (page 3)
If you are an eligible noncitizen, write in your eight- or nine-digit Alien Registration Number. Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are (1) a permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551); (2) a conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C); or (3) the holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: “Refugee,” “Asylum Granted,” “Parolee” (I-94 confirms that you were paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), T-Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.) or “Cuban-Haitian Entrant;” or (4) the holder of a valid employment authorization card (EA) from the Department of Health and Human Services showing a designation of “Victim of human trafficking.” If you are in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), select “No,” “I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen.” You will not be eligible for federal student aid. If you have a Social Security number but are not a citizen or an eligible noncitizen, you should still complete the FAFSA because you may be eligible for state or college aid.

Notes for questions 16 and 17 (page 3)
Report your marital status as of the date you sign your FAFSA. If your marital status changes after you sign your FAFSA, check with the financial aid office at the college. Consistent with the Supreme Court decision holding Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) unconstitutional, same-sex couples must report their marital status as married if they were legally married in a state or other jurisdiction (foreign country) that permits same-sex marriage, without regard to where the couple resides.

Notes for question 22 (page 3)
The Selective Service System, and the registration requirement for young men, is America’s ability to provide manpower in an emergency to the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard). Almost all men—ages 18 through 25—must register. For more information about Selective Service, visit www.sss.gov.

Notes for questions 33 (page 4)
and 81 (page 6)
If you filed or will file a foreign tax return, an examiner with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory (e.g., Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swan’s Island or the Northern Mariana Islands) or one of the Freely Associated States, use the information from that return to fill out this form. If you filed a foreign return, convert all monetary units to U.S. dollars using the rate that is in effect today. To view the daily exchange rate, go to www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current.

Notes for questions 35 (page 4)
and 83 (page 6)
In general, a person is eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes less than $100,000, does not itemize deductions, does not receive income from his or her own business or farm and does not receive alimony. A person is not eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes $100,000 or more and itemizes deductions, receives income from his or her own business or farm, is self-employed, receives alimony or is required to file Schedule D for capital gains. If you filed a 1040 only to claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit, and you would have otherwise been eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ, answer “Yes” to this question. If you filed a 1040 and were not required to file a tax return, answer “No” to this question.

Notes for questions 38 (page 4)
and 87 (page 7) — Notes for those who filed a 1040EZ
On the 1040EZ, if a person didn’t check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she single is or has never been married, or 02 if he or she is married. If a person checked either the “you” or “spouse” box on line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions ($3,800 equals one exemption).
27. What is the name of the high school where you received or will receive your high school diploma? Enter the complete high school name, and the city and state where the high school is located.

High School Name
High School City

28. Will you have your first bachelor's degree before July 1, 2014?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Don’t know ☐

29. When you begin the 2014-2015 school year, what will be your grade level?

Never attended college and 1st year undergraduate ☐
Attended college before and 1st year undergraduate ☐
2nd year undergraduate/sophomore ☐
3rd year undergraduate/junior ☐
4th year undergraduate/senior ☐
5th year/other undergraduate ☐
1st year graduate/professional ☐
Continuing graduate/professional or beyond ☐

30. When you begin the 2014-2015 school year, what degree or certificate will you be working on?

1st bachelor's degree ☐
2nd bachelor's degree ☐
Associate degree (occupational or technical program) ☐
Associate degree (general education or transfer program) ☐
Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of less than two years) ☐
Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of two or more years) ☐
Teaching credential (nondegree program) ☐
Graduate or professional degree ☐
Other/undecided ☐

31. Are you interested in being considered for work-study?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Don’t know ☐

Step Two (Student):

Answer questions 32–58 about yourself (the student). If you were never married or are separated, divorced or widowed, answer only about yourself. If you are married or remarried as of today, include information about your spouse (husband or wife).

32. For 2013, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 33?

I have already completed my return ☐
I will file but have not yet completed my return ☐
I’m not going to file. Skip to question 39. ☐

33. What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2013?

** If student is filing income tax, use option 1. DO NOT use option 2. Paper FAFSA will not be processed without current year tax return. If student is not going to file, select option 3**

34. For 2013, what is or will be your tax filing status according to your tax return?

Single ☐
Head of household ☐
Married—filed joint return ☐
Married—filed separate return ☐
Qualifying widow(er) ☐
Don’t know ☐

35. If you have filed or will file a 1040, were you eligible to file a 1040A or a 1040EZ? See Notes page 2.

For questions 36–45, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply to you, enter 0. Report whole dollar amounts with no cents.

36. What was your (and spouse’s) adjusted gross income for 2013? Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.

37. Enter your (and spouse’s) income tax for 2013. Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 55; 1040A—line 35; or 1040EZ—line 10.

38. Enter your (and spouse’s) exemptions for 2013. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or Form 1040A—line 6d. For Form 1040EZ, see Notes page 2.

For questions 39 and 40 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2013. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms, or on IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 (Code A) of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); on 1040A—line 7; or on 1040EZ—line 1. If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

39. How much did you earn from working in 2013?

40. How much did your spouse earn from working in 2013?

41. As of today, what is your (and spouse’s) total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts? Don’t include student financial aid.

42. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse’s) investments, including real estate? Don’t include the home you live in. Net worth means current value minus debt. See Notes page 2.

43. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse’s) current businesses and/or investment farms? Don’t include a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. See Notes page 2.
44. Student's 2013 Additional Financial Information (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)
   a. Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from IRS Form 1040—line 49 or 1040A—line 31.
   b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your household, as reported in question 95.
   c. Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.
   d. Taxable student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your adjusted gross income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.
   e. Combat pay or special combat pay. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in your adjusted gross income. Don't include untaxed combat pay.
   f. Earnings from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college.

   **The majority of TASFA students will not have anything to report on question #44 and #45.**

45. Student's 2013 Untaxed Income (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)
   a. Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, F, G, H and S. Don't include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).
   b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SIR SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28c or 1040A—line 17.
   c. Child support received for any of your children. Don't include foster care or adoption payments.
   d. Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 18b or 1040A—line 18b.
   e. Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A—lines (15a minus 15b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.
   f. Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A—lines (16a minus 16b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.
   g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Don't include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.
   h. Veterans noneducation benefits, such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.
   i. Other untaxed income not reported in items 4A through 4S, such as workers' compensation, disability, etc. Also include the untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040—line 25. Don't include extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on social fuels.
   j. Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bill), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement. See Notes page 2.

Step Three (Student): Answer the questions in this step to determine if you will need to provide parental information. Once you answer "Yes" to any of the questions in this step, skip Step Four and go to Step Five on page 8.

46. Were you born before January 1, 1991? Yes ☐ No ☐

47. As of today, are you married? (Also answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced.)

48. At the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)? Yes ☐ No ☐

49. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? See Notes page 2. Yes ☐ No ☐

50. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? See Notes page 2. Yes ☐ No ☐

51. Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015? Yes ☐ No ☐

52. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2015? Yes ☐ No ☐

53. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court? See Notes page 9. Yes ☐ No ☐

54. As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor? See Notes page 9. Yes ☐ No ☐

55. As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship? See Notes page 9. Yes ☐ No ☐

56. At any time on or after July 1, 2013, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? See Notes page 9. Yes ☐ No ☐

57. At any time on or after July 1, 2013, were you living at the U.S. Department of Housing or homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? Yes ☐ No ☐

58. At any time on or after July 1, 2013, were you living at the U.S. Department of Housing or homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Many students doing paper FAFSA are here without their parents (unaccompanied youth) and the probability of homelessness is much higher among this population. Most students in this situation have not been identified and are not receiving services from the school district. Please refer possible homeless students to your district's homeless services office.**

Homeless students are qualified independent. Immigration status is not a barrier.
**Parents are legal residents of Texas if they have resided in the state for at least 12 consecutive months. Can answer yes to #71 if parents have lived in the state for at least a year prior to date stated. For #72, write in the month and year after had resided in the state for 12 months.**

If parents do not have SSN, leave #61 and #65 blank.
For questions 85–94, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0. Report whole dollar amounts with no cents.

85. What was your parents’ adjusted gross income for 2013? Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.

86. Enter your parents’ income tax for 2013. Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 55; 1040A—line 35; or 1040EZ—line 10.

87. Enter your parents’ exemptions for 2013. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or on Form 1040A—line 6d. For Form 1040EZ, see Notes page 2.

Questions 88 and 89 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2013. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms, or on IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 (Code A) of IRS Schedule W-1 (Form 1040); on 1040A—line 7; or on 1040EZ—line 1. If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

88. How much did Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working in 2013?

89. How much did Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working in 2013?

90. As of today, what is your parents’ total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts?

91. As of today, what is the net worth of your parents’ investments, including real estate? Don’t include the home in which your parents live. Net worth means current value minus debt. See Notes page 2.

92. As of today, what is the net worth of your parents’ current businesses and/or investment farms? Don’t include a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. See Notes page 2.

93. Parents’ 2013 Additional Financial Information (Enter the amounts for your parent(s))

a. Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from IRS Form 1040—line 49 or 1040A—line 31.

b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don’t include support for children in your parents’ household, as reported in question 73.

c. Your parents’ taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.

d. Your parents’ taxable student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your parents’ adjusted gross income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.

e. Combat pay or special combat pay. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in your parents’ adjusted gross income. Do not enter untaxed combat pay.

f. Earnings from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college. **The majority of TASFA families will not have anything for questions #93 and #94. Put zeros or NA.**

94. Parents’ 2013 Untaxed Income (Enter the amounts for your parent(s))

a. Payments to tax-exempt pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. Don’t include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).

b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28 + line 32 or 1040A—line 17.

c. Child support received for any of your parents’ children. Don’t include foster care or adoption payments.

d. Tax-exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b.

e. Unexempt portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines 15a minus 15b or 1040A—lines 11a minus 11b. Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.

f. Unexempt portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines 16a minus 16b or 1040A—lines 12a minus 12b. Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.

g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Don’t include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.

h. Veterans noneducation benefits, such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.

i. Other unexempt income not reported in items 94a through 94h, such as workers’ compensation, disability, etc. Also include the unexempt portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040—line 23. Don’t include extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, unexempt Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on special fuels.

For Help — www.studentaid.gov/completefafs

Page 7
Step Five (Student): Complete this step only if you (the student) answered "Yes" to any questions in Step Three.

95. How many people are in your household?
Include:
- yourself (and your spouse),
- your children, if you will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, and
- other people if they now live with you, you provide more than half of their support and you will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

96. How many people in your (and your spouse’s) household (from question 95) will be college students between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015? Always count yourself as a college student. Include others only if they will attend, at least halftime in 2014-2015, a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.

In 2012 or 2013, did you (or your spouse) or anyone in your household (from question 95) receive benefits from any of the federal programs listed? Mark all that apply. Answering these questions will not reduce eligibility for student aid or these programs. TANF may have a different name in your state. Call 1-800-4-FED-AID to find out the name of the state’s program.


102. As of today, are you (or your spouse) a dislocated worker? See Notes page 9.

Step Six (Student): Indicate which colleges you want to receive your FAFSA information.

Enter the six-digit federal school code and your housing plans. You can find the school codes at www.fafsa.gov or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID. If you cannot obtain the code, write in the complete name, address, city and state of the college. For state aid, you may wish to list your preferred college first. To find out how to have more colleges receive your FAFSA information, read What is the FAFSA? on page 10.

103.a
NAME OF COLLEGE
ADDRESS AND CITY

OR

103.b
NAME OF COLLEGE
ADDRESS AND CITY

**In Step 6, write down name of institution that will receive your paper FAFSA. School code is NOT needed. Housing Plans are REQUIRED to determine budget they will consider for financial aid purposes.

Step Seven (Student and Parent): Read, sign and date.

**Parent signature is required for dependent students even if parents are in another city, state, or country. Can email FAFSA PDF to parents asking them to print out, sign page, and mail back to student. Guardians or other relatives are NOT allowed to sign on behalf of parents. This can be a challenge if parents are in more rural or impoverished areas. In extreme cases, contact with financial aid office to request a parent override.

104. Date this form was completed
MONTH    DAY    2014 or 2015

105. Student (Sign below)

Parent (A parent from Step Four sign below)

106. Preparer's Social Security Number (or 107)

107. Employer ID number (or 106)

108. Preparer's signature and date

For Help — 1-800-433-3243
### Sample TASFA

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR:**

2014–2015 Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)
(for House Bill 1403/Senate Bill 1528 students only)

**Which financial aid application should I use?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residency Status</th>
<th>Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</th>
<th>Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am a U.S. citizen.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551).</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a conditional permanent resident with visa type I-551C.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| I am an eligible noncitizen with an Arrival/Departure Record (I-94) showing one of the following:  
  - Refugee  
  - Asylum granted  
  - Parolee (for a minimum of one year)  
  - Cuban-Haitian entrant                                                                 | ✔                                                |                                                 |
| I do not meet one of the statuses above; however, I have been classified as a Texas resident and therefore am eligible to pay the Texas in-State tuition rate. My classification as a Texas resident is NOT due to an in-State scholarship or assistantship. |                                                   | ✔                                                |

The statuses described above pertain to the student who is applying for financial aid. The parent's resident status does not impact the student's eligibility to apply for financial aid.

If you meet one of the residency statuses above, complete the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). For more information on the eligibility requirements for federal student aid programs, go to [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).

**Priority deadlines:** You should apply as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2014. Most state aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. It is recommended that you apply by **February** as some grants require that your application be approved by no later than March 15th.

Applications need to be received and processed by March 15th! Encourage students and families to file taxes as early as possible to meet this deadline!
Student's Checklist

1. **Apply for admissions:** Complete your admissions application prior to completing the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA).

2. **Confirm your eligibility for House Bill 1403/Senate Bill 1528:** Contact the appropriate office, typically the registrar's or admissions office of your college or university, in order to find out if you meet the requirements to be classified as a Texas resident under House Bill 1403/Senate Bill 1528.

3. **File taxes:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires you and/or your parents to file a tax return if either you or your parents meet the income thresholds established annually by the IRS. For more information regarding income thresholds, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).
   - **Request an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN):** Individuals who do not have a Social Security Number can apply for an ITIN using a W-7 Tax Form. For more information, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

4. **Register with the Selective Service (males only):** If you are a male between the ages of 18 and 25, you must register with the Selective Service. You can obtain a registration form at your local post office.

5. **Check Appendix A of TASFA:** Appendix A contains the list of schools that currently accept the TASFA. If the college or university that you plan to attend is not on this list, check with the college’s financial aid office to determine which application the college prefers. You will most likely have to complete a paper copy of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

6. **Complete the TASFA:** Complete the TASFA. Print the completed form and mail it to the college or university you plan to attend. You are only required to submit the application piece (without the instructions) to your college or university. Do not leave any blanks. Enter “N/A” if a question does not apply to you.
   - **a. Attach a copy of proof of registration with Selective Service:** Attach a copy of the registration acknowledgement card to the TASFA. Your college will not be able to release state funds until you provide them with your acknowledgement card.
   - **b. Attach a copy of 2013 income tax return(s) and tax transcript:** If you are required to file taxes, the college will not process your TASFA until you provide a copy of your tax return(s).
   - **c. Order a free copy of tax return transcript —** To order a tax transcript, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or call 1-800-908-9946.
   - **d. Include cash earnings:** If you and/or your parents did not have to file a federal income tax return, but earned wages which were paid in cash, report those cash earnings on item 33 of the TASFA.

7. **Follow up on your TASFA:** To check the status of your application, contact your college’s or university’s financial aid office. Contact information can be obtained by visiting the college’s website. College/university websites are provided on Appendix A of the TASFA.

Help is available.
For assistance with the TASFA, call

1-888-311-8881
TEXAS FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION CENTER

---

1. Typically students need to be admitted before their TASFA is reviewed
3. Encourage families to file for taxes IF they make above income threshold. If they make below income threshold, they should have a cash earning breakdown
4. Can register for Selective Service before financial aid season. Takes 2-3 weeks to receive card
6c. IRS Return Transcript can be ordered online or in person at the nearest IRS office
7. STUDENTS need to FOLLOW UP! They need to have a paper trail (ie) fax confirmation, send in certified mail, make copies of all documents sent
2014–2015 Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)
(for House Bill 1403/Senate Bill 1528 students only)

Name
Street address
City State ZIP code
Telephone
Email address
Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) College Student ID#
High School (where you received or will receive your high school diploma):
High School City: Date of Graduation:

Students should put their college ID # if they have it. If not, they should leave blank.

House Bill 1403 from 2001 State Legislative Session /Senate Bill 1528 from 2005 State Legislative Session: Certain categories of foreign-born and immigrant students in the State of Texas can meet state requirements for residency under Texas Education Code, Chapter 54, Section 54.052(a)(3). This state law allows such students to pay the resident tuition rate while attending public institutions of higher education in Texas, and be classified as state residents for tuition purposes. As Texas residents, such students are eligible to apply for some student financial aid programs offered by the State of Texas.

Please note: For a student to qualify for state student financial aid, the college or university must first make the determination on the student’s residency status. Also, keep in mind that the state’s definition of residency does not make a student eligible for federal financial aid.

Section I: Student Information

1. Were you born before January 1, 1991? ☐
2. As of today, are you married? ☐
3. Are you in a graduate program of study? (e.g., master’s or doctoral program) ☐
4. Do you have at least one child that you support? ☐
5. Do you have dependents other than your children or spouse that you support? ☐
6. Are you an orphan or ward of the court? ☐
7. Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by the state’s court? ☐
8. Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by the state’s court? ☐
9. Did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? ☐

For purposes of this application, if you answered “No” to all of the questions above, you are considered a dependent student and must include parental income information on this form. If you answered “Yes” to any of the questions above, you are considered an independent student and are not required to include parental income information on this form.

**Many TASFA students are here without their parents (unaccompanied youth) and the probability of homelessness is much higher among this population. However, most students in this situation have not been identified nor receiving services from school districts. Please refer possible homeless students to your district’s homeless service office. Homeless students are classified as independent and receive more services and possibly more aid. Immigration status is not a barrier to this classification.**
Section II: Household Information

12. If you are a dependent student, please list the names of ALL family members, including your parent(s), who will be supported by your parent(s) from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. If you are an independent student, you should include family members who are supported by you. (See instructions for additional information.) Attach additional sheets if necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Relationship to student</th>
<th>Which college/university will student be attending?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Follow FAFSA rules regarding parents and household definitions. If students are living with their families, they should include everyone in the household and any siblings attending college that may not live at home. If families support 50% or more of the support that is outside of the U.S. they should be included here. Must include parents and their dependents even if not living in the U.S. and even if parents are not actually supporting student. If student cannot be classified as an independent according to Section 1, but has no contact, the student might be able to qualify for a dependency override.

Students should contact the financial aid office to inquire about procedure for a dependency override.

Total number in household: ___________________________ Total number in college in 2014–2015: ___________________________

Section III: Additional Information

Housing plans section is important - this will determine the budget they will consider for financial aid purposes.

13. Independent students only:
   Do you live in a dislocated worker?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Don’t Know

14. Did you work in 2013?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Don’t Know
   If yes, did you file a U.S. federal (or foreign) income tax return for 2013?
   [ ] Yes (Attaches tax return and tax transcript)
   [ ] No (Will file)

15. What is your marital status?
   [ ] Married/Remarried
   [ ] Widowed
   [ ] Single
   [ ] Separated/Divorced

16. Have you been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No

17. Do you have authorization (e.g. DACA) to work in the U.S.?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No

Parent:

21. Did you work in 2013?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No
   If yes, did you file a U.S. federal (or foreign) income tax return for 2013?
   [ ] Yes (Attaches tax return and tax transcript)
   [ ] No (Will file)

22. Is any of your parents a dislocated worker?
   [ ] Yes [ ] No

23. What is your parent's marital status?
   [ ] Married/Remarried
   [ ] Widowed
   [ ] Single
   [ ] Separated/Divorced

24. Mother/Stepmother's highest level of education completed:
   [ ] Elementary/Schoool
   [ ] Middle school/Jr. high
   [ ] College or beyond

25. Enter your mother/stepmother's age:
   Date of birth: ___________________________

26. Father/Stepfather's highest level of education completed:
   [ ] Elementary/Schoool
   [ ] Middle school/Jr. high
   [ ] College or beyond

27. Enter your father's/stepfather's age:
   Date of birth: ___________________________

2014–2015 Texas Application for State Financial Aid
Section IV: Income and Assets

Do not leave any blanks. Enter "0" where appropriate.

Dependent students: Complete both the Student and Parent(s) columns.

Independent students: Complete the Student/Spouse column only.

**If there is additional income not reported on income tax or did not file, write amount(s) on question 33. Report for student and parent only.**

*The majority of TASFA families will not have anything to report on A or B of Section IV. They should put 0 or NA.*

**If parents make below income threshold they need to explain the breakdown of expenses. Austin Community College has a Non-Filer form. Other institutions do not but will accept a similar format.**

### Part A. Annual Untaxed Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Spouse</th>
<th>Mother</th>
<th>Father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28. Child support received</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Tax exempt interest income</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Housing, food, and other living allowances paid on your behalf</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Other untaxed income not reported, such as worker's compensation,</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disability, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Money you received (or bills someone else paid for you) not reported</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elsewhere on this form</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Cash earnings (wages not listed on taxes or W-2 forms)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Untaxed Income: $0.00

### Part B. Annual Income Exclusions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Spouse</th>
<th>Mother</th>
<th>Father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34. Child support paid</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Taxable earnings from work-study or other need-based work programs</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Taxable scholarships and grants reported on 2013 federal income tax</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Part C. Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Spouse</th>
<th>Mother</th>
<th>Father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37. As of today, balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. As of today, investment net worth (do not include the home you live in or the balance of retirement plans)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. As of today, net worth of current business(es) or investment farm(s)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section V: Total Family Income

40. Was your TOTAL FAMILY INCOME less than $6,900 in 2013?

(TOTAL FAMILY INCOME is the income reported on your parent's and your W-2 IRS tax forms plus the Total Untaxed Income reported on Section IV, Part A of this form for you and your parent(s)).

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

If YES, please include a breakdown of your living expenses (e.g., rent, food, utilities, etc.) and provide a written summary that explains how you were able to pay for your living expenses in 2013. Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary.
Section VI: Statement of Selective Service Registration Status

41. Certification of registration status (Please check the appropriate box.)
   - [ ] I certify that I am female and, therefore, not required to register with the Selective Service System.
   - [ ] I certify that I am a male age 18 to 25 and am registered with the Selective Service System.

   Please attach copy of registration acknowledgement card.
   - [ ] I certify that I am not of an age required to register with Selective Service System. (That is, I am over 25.)
   - [ ] I certify that I have been determined by the Selective Service System to be exempt from registration.
   - [ ] I certify that I have not reached my 18th birthday and understand that I will be required by law to register at that time.
   - [ ] I certify that I do not have a Social Security Number, but have submitted my Selective Service registration form to the Selective Service System and will provide proof of registration to the financial aid office as soon as I receive my registration number.

**Must check the last box if student does not have Selective Service Registration number when filling this out. This indicates to the financial aid office that the student is in the process of registering and can begin process TASFA. DO NOT send registration form to the financial aid office, send copy of card when received!**

Section VII: Signatures

42. a. Student and Parent signatures

I understand that under Texas Education Code, Section 51.3095, I must be registered with the Selective Service System according to the requirements of federal law in order to receive student financial aid funds from the State of Texas, and hereby certify that I meet this requirement. I also certify that I will use state student financial aid to pay only the cost of attending an institution of higher education, and that the information provided on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statements may void my eligibility for state financial aid. I also certify that the information provided on this form will be used only for evaluation of eligibility for state financial aid and that I may need to provide additional information for my school to determine eligibility for state financial aid.

Student signature

Parent signature*

(*Parent signature required only for dependent students)

**Parent signature is required for dependent students even if parents are in another city, state, or country. Can email TASFA to parents, ask to print, sign this page, and mail back to the student. Other relative or guardians are NOT allowed to sign on behalf of parent. Can be challenge if parents are in a rural or impoverished area- in extreme cases contact financial aid office.

b. High School Counselor: Not required if parent signature already provided above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High school counselor signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Printed name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

~When in doubt, REFER TO THE TASFA INSTRUCTIONS or CALL the financial aid office at each institution. Sometimes there is a financial aid advisor in charge of handling TASFAs. The Texas Financial Aid information center is also a really great resource (1-888-311-3881)~
## University-Specific Financial Aid Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of University</th>
<th>Priority Deadline <strong>Keep in Mind TASFA Packets need to be in the universities financial aid office BEFORE the priority deadlines to receive the maximum consideration for limited financial aid resources</strong></th>
<th>TAFSA/Paper FAFSA/Online FAFSA</th>
<th>Documents needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angelo State University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA or paper FAFSA (DACA)</td>
<td>W-2 statements, income tax return form, household verification worksheet <a href="http://www.angelo.edu/afforms">www.angelo.edu/afforms</a> selective service card for males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin Community College</td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>prefer the paper FAFSA</td>
<td>TAX Transcript, Non-tax fieler statement for parents with the W-2 for parents who do not work, EAD Card, Verification Worksheet, selective service for males. Name: Imelda Buentello Email address: <a href="mailto:ibuentel@austincc.edu">ibuentel@austincc.edu</a> Office Number: 223-7843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin College (4 Year Private)</td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>2014 Federal Tax Return, all W-2s, EAD card, TX Core Residency Form.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinn College</td>
<td>1-Jun</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>TASFA, Selective Service Card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huston-Tillotson University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamar University</td>
<td>1-Mar</td>
<td>Paper TAFSA, tax transcript, seniors can fill out online FAFSA</td>
<td>TASFA, verification w/s, Financial Aid Disclosure Form, Title 4 Authorization Form (found on website-Financial Aid Forms), Tax Transcript, Selective Service Card for Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Lady of the Lake University of San Antonio</td>
<td>NOT AWARDING STUDENTS ANY AID</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>parents and your 2014 IRS Tax Returns and W-2's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie View A&amp;M University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>Submit everything together-IRS Tax Transcript, copy of W-2, copy of DACA Card, selective service card for males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regis University</td>
<td></td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>Letter Financial Guarantee, Proof of finances (bank statement(s)), selective service card for males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Houston State University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>Verification Worksheet, Income Tax Worksheet, Child Support/SNAP Benefits Worksheet, Student Tax Return Transcript, Parents Tax Return Transcript (for dependent students only), Proof of Selective Service Registration, If student or parent worked but did not file taxes we will need all copies of W-2’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schreiner University</td>
<td></td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>Proof of income is required. If they have a 2014 Tax Return/Tax Transcript, Selective Service Registration, Affidavit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern University**</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOT AWARDING STUDENTS ANY AID</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Form(s) Required</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Edward's University</td>
<td>1-Mar</td>
<td>TAFSA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary's University of San Antonio</td>
<td>31-Mar</td>
<td>2014 Tax Return (not transcript) &amp; Copy of the DACA Card only with the paper TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen F. Austin State University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA, will request what they need once they receive TASFA, selective service card for males. (936-468-2403)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarleton State University</td>
<td></td>
<td>We require the tax return when available, unless there are questions on the information received we may in turn request the transcript in the future.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M International University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>Income Tax Return 2014 (Student/parent), w-2 (Student/Parent), Bank Statement (Income saving and checking for both student/parent), selective service card, DACA Card (Recommended), 2014 Tax Return Transcript for student and/or parent (anyone who files). The Verification of Non-filing letter is required if a student or parent worked in 2014 but states on the TASFA that they did not file taxes. Selective Service Registration card.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University, Commerce</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University, Corpus Christi</td>
<td>1-Mar</td>
<td>**NEEDS 2014 signed Tax Transcript, selective service card</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University, Galveston**</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA, will request what they need once they receive TASFA, selective service card for males</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University, Kingsville</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>Institutional verification worksheet, household worksheet (both found on their website), W-2 for parent/student (if they do not work complete non file statement), selective service card, copy of IRS Transcript</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas State University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech University</td>
<td>March 15th</td>
<td>2014 IRS 1040 form, Tax Transcript, TTU Non-Tax Filers form for the student and parent to list income received in 2014. W-2 forms, Selective Service Registration Card</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Woman's University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, Arlington</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAME: Vicky Williams  
Email address: VW02@txstate.edu  
Office Number: (512) 245-3989; Main Number: (512) 245-2315  

Texas Woman’s University  
15-Mar  TASFA  Tax Transcript, W-2, selective service for males.  

The University of Texas, Arlington  
15-Mar  TASFA  NEED 2014 parent/student Tax Return will not look at TASFA until they have the Tax return, need signed tax transcript when it becomes available, selective service card.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Application Type</th>
<th>Required Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, Austin</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>Paper FAFSA</td>
<td>1040 (2014) tax return (parent/student), signed tax transcript for verification, selective service card for males Office Number: 512-475-6282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>If the applicant is dependent, both the student’s and parents’ tax return transcript should be submitted. If independent, only the student’s (and spouse’s if married) tax return transcript is required. We will only require other documentation if there is a conflict which must be resolved. If additional information is needed, we will be in contact. gladly accept the tax return transcript once it becomes available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, Permian Basin</td>
<td>NO Deadline</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>2014 tax transcripts and W’2s if to be submitted with the application. If possible, it also helps to have some type of proof that the student has registered for selective service. There is no TASFA deadline but please send Tax Transcript ASAP. If they are not able to get the tax transcript then we will accept the tax form until they get the tax transcript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, San Antonio</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>SIGNED 2014 Tax Return and 214 Tax Return Transcripts. Other documentation may be requested on an individual basis. If parents make less than 7000 they can submit a letter stating their bills and how they pay them. Office Number: 210-458-7995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Texas, Tyler</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>W-2, once they get the packet they will follow up if they need anything else</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity University</td>
<td>15-Feb</td>
<td>CSS Profile only</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>They have their own TASFA form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston, Victoria</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TAFSA</td>
<td>Dependent V1 worksheets, signed tax transcripts, selective service registration card. Name: Carolyn Mallory Email: <a href="mailto:malloryc@uhv.edu">malloryc@uhv.edu</a> Office Number: (361)-570-4130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Texas</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>tax return transcript, W-2(s).selective service registration card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of St. Thomas</td>
<td>15-Apr</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>W2’s, 1040 form both parents and student. Selective service card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of the Incarnate Word</td>
<td>1-Apr</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>Anything needed from that point will go to the student through email from their Financial Aid Advisor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>TASFA</td>
<td>The Texas Certification form, (found on their website) 1040 Tax Returns for 2014 with the W2’s for both student and parents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources**

**Included in this section:**

---

57
• Undocumented Students’ Perceptions of College
• Frequently Asked Questions
• 9 things every Immigrant should know
• Updates on the DREAM Act and DACA
• DACA Resources in Texas
• Scholarship List
Undocumented Students’ Perceptions of College

In September, 2010, the Austin College Access Network’s College Advising for Undocumented Students Team (CAUST) conducted a series of focus groups with undocumented students who had enrolled in college. The intention of these focus groups was to better understand the aspirations of (and challenges facing) undocumented students who were pursuing higher education. Seventeen students attended the focus groups, all of whom were Hispanic students for whom English is not their first language. Other notable demographic characteristics of the participants include:

- On average, participants had spent 12.7 years in the U.S.
- Participants came from low-income families; only one reported a family income of more than $50,000.
- Nonetheless, all 17 participants reported that their parents were ‘involved’ or ‘somewhat involved’ in the educational process.
- The majority of participants are academically proficient- only four students reported taking developmental education classes.

Participants were asked a series of questions about their aspirations and challenges related to their pursuit of post-secondary education. The commonalities in their responses are reflected by the quotes below.

**What Motivated You to Go to College?**

“You see your parents working hard, and they don’t make enough money to pay bills. Another reason is, that’s why I’m here in America. My parents want me to succeed. I want to feel like I did something with my life, and not just do what everyone else does, like work at McDonalds. I want to go into nursing to help other people and see that change happen.”

- Student at Austin Community College

“When I was in high school, I kept getting in trouble. It got to a point where my counselor asked me what my plans were. She said you did not have an excuse because you are an immigrant, the reason you feel this way is because no one is telling you what you should do. So, she kept on working with me. Then my mom told me I was the first one who could go to college, in my family.”

- Student at Texas State University-San Marcos, Reagan HS Graduate

“To actually do something with my life. Even if I can’t work, I have [a degree]. If I can get my papers, I can do something. I don’t want to work at fast food. I know I can go somewhere else, and it’s something. You got an education. You did this. It’s helpful even if you can’t work.”

- Student at Austin Community College

“The challenge motivates me – it is possible. Right now I want to continue. I feel like a bachelor’s is not enough. I wasn’t thinking about a masters, but after I was done [with college], you think you know you can do it. You know you did well in college.”

- Graduate of UT-Austin, Lanier HS Graduate

**What Role Have Your Parents Played?**

“My mom is a really pushy person, she told me since I was little, I wasn’t a big struggle growing up, ‘if you want a better life go to school, so you are not like us,’ but also to do it for myself, so I can say I did something, I didn’t waste my time.  

- Student at Austin Community College
My mom played a big role... In my case, my parents are separated, my mom working three jobs so I could focus and be in school, she has sacrificed a lot.”  - Student at UT-Austin, Johnson HS Graduate

“My mom says as long as you live with me you don’t have to worry about food or shelter. She is a single mother. The rest of my family tells me to get to work. It is a Hispanic thing, they just want to see you work and make something out of your life. I am working full time right now. My family is like: what are you doing next? They’re happy I’m not pregnant and thinking about marriage. I want to do things on my own before I think about that.”  - Former Austin community College Student

“My parents never told me no. They told me to apply to the prestigious big schools, like Harvard, but I’m not that smart. Because my dad went to college in Mexico, but didn’t finish it. He’s pretty smart, and since he didn’t finish he really wants me to finish, if they don’t have the money they will try and find it.”  - Graduate of UT-Austin, Lanier HS graduate

What Are Your Career Aspirations?
“I am in an internship. After I graduate, I will be looking for a job. I’m looking for jobs outside of the United States, international companies. I’m also considering law school. Probably New York or UT. They have special programs for minorities. I’m curious about different types of law.”  - Student at UT-Austin, Lanier HS graduate

“The [U.S.] military is still a goal. If the Dream Act passes, I will go to the National Guard, and then become an officer in the army. I am still thinking about a master’s degree, but those officer bars are pretty tempting.”  - Student at Texas State University- San Marcos, Reagan HS graduate

“I’d love to go into prenatal nursing, that’s kind of the short term. Long term, I’d like to be a doctor.”  - Student at Austin Community College

“I’m in my 2nd year studying nursing. I’m in the honors program in the nursing school. I didn’t have to apply to get into nursing, since I’m honors. But if I can’t maintain above a “C,” I will have to reapply. If it gets too hard, I was thinking about being a mechanic. My dad fixes mufflers and radiators, and he gets paid well. If the Dream Act doesn’t pass with nursing then I will go to ACC and study to help my dad.”  - Student at UT-Austin, LASA graduate

What Barriers Have You Encountered So Far?
“I applied for Financial Aid way too late. I was entitled to the Texas Grant, no one told me this, and they gave me the ACC grant that covered my tuition. The Texas Grant would cover my Texas State tuition, because it was already 16 months, I didn’t have the right info.”  - Student at Texas State University- San Marcos, Reagan HS graduate

“It was hard explaining to the international office that, yes, I’m an international student but a Texas resident, but I’m not supposed to pay what international students are paying. My particular counselor wasn’t well informed, and I have to do the same thing every year... regular counselors did not know how to advise us. I talked to a counselor; they always told me to talk to someone else, and they were not very knowledgeable.”  - Student at UT-Austin
“It was when I was in Access; [an advisor] helped me get into Prairie View A&M’s academic boot camp... One night they called us all into a room and announced all of the scholarship money. Then they said ‘except the rest of you don’t have documentation- you don’t have money. Even if you get a Ph.D., if you come to Prairie View, you may not be able to do anything. You might be a dishwasher. This is a business, and how are you going to pay? Most likely you will not be able to get in.’ I was heartbroken, but it was the hard truth. The professor didn’t know there was help available. Fresh out of high school, you have high hopes, then a professor from a big institution says all that. It was heartbreaking. It was one of the bigger incidents I went through. It sucked, pretty much.”

- Student at Texas State University-San Marcos, Reagan HS graduate

“Everything was lost at Texas State, so I had to drive there to fill out paperwork and deliver it to them. They lost my financial aid like 4 times, and this is transferring from ACC.”

- Student at Texas State University- San Marcos, Reagan HS graduate

“The deadlines hurt me, and everything was too late.... I didn’t get any financial aid, everything was out of pocket.”

- Former student at Austin Community College
Frequently Asked Questions

Financial Aid

Will I get less money because my parents are undocumented, even though I have a Social Security number? No you are eligible for the same federal funding of students whose parents are citizens.

How much money am I eligible for? You are eligible for grant funding from the State, and certain private loans. Refer to www.collegeforalltexans.com to identify the grants you are eligible for.

Why do I have to fill out the FAFSA if I am not eligible for Federal Funds? Some schools prefer the FAFSA form. UT Austin is one school who prefers this form. Please refer to the school list on the back of the TASFA to find out if your schools prefer the TASFA. If the school you are applying to is not on this list, you will fill out the paper FAFSA.

Where do I mail the TASFA? DO NOT MAIL THE TASFA OR FAFSA TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. You will send a copy of the paper TASFA and paper FAFSA to the Financial Aid department at each school you are applying to.

What if my parents do not file taxes and are unwilling to do so? First, if you are in Austin, take your parents to Foundation Communities, so they may learn from someone else why filing their taxes is so important for you. If, after doing this your parents still refuse to file, you will contact each school for their non-tax filer form. This will likely flag your Financial Aid application for additional review. Please check your email, and each school’s financial aid portal, frequently to respond ASAP to any messages requiring additional information.

Can I participate in Work Study? As an undocumented student you are not eligible for federal funding, therefore you are ineligible for Federal Work Study. If you have received the Work Authorization Card through DACA, you may be eligible to work at your school through a program separate from the Federal Work Study program. Ask your school if they hire students at school outside of the Federal Work Study Program.

I was approved for DACA, am I now eligible for Federal Funds? No, DACA does not change your eligibility for Federal Aid. You are still only eligible for State Financial Aid.

Can I get Financial Aid if I go to an out of state school? You may be eligible for the school’s institutional aid, but not the Federal Aid. Ask the schools you are applying to if as an undocumented student, you are eligible for their institutional aid.

When do I need to turn in all of my financial aid? You need to turn in your TASFA and/or FAFSA as early in the Spring as possible. As soon as your parents complete their taxes you should complete the appropriate financial aid applications. Many schools have priority deadlines in March, so you should have all materials into schools by March 1.

Will my parents get in trouble for filing taxes since they are here illegally? We cannot provide legal counsel through this document, but in our experience, we have not seen problems arise for families from this process. If anything, it does prove good citizenship for when any new legislation passes for the benefit of immigrant families.

What if I have not lived here for three years, can I still get in-state tuition? What should I do? Some students, who have only been in Texas for one year, may still be eligible for in-state tuition. Check with your high school counselor to see if you meet any of the additional requirements based on your visa status. If you do not meet any of the requirements, you will not be eligible for State financial aid, however, you could still be eligible for institutional aid. If you have a strong high school record, you should refer to our list of competitive colleges and universities that provide aid for immigrant students. Also, there are scholarships which you can find in our scholarship list that can help you pay. If your high school record
would restrict you from this, you could start in your local community college, and then transfer to your dream college, after working hard and proving yourself with your college GPA. Remember your high school GPA does not travel with you to college. You have a fresh start—do well so you may apply to scholarships based on your new college GPA. There are scholarships for students who are already in college as well.

What is an ITIN number? Do I need one if I work? ITIN stands for Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. This number allows you to comply with US tax laws. By complying with US tax laws, you are contributing to your record as a good citizen, which could possibly help if a change in policy benefiting immigrants was to occur.

What are the visas that I need to apply for Texas Resident Tuition under SB 1528? You do not need a Visa to qualify for SB 1528 if you lived in Texas the three years leading up to high school graduation. If you have only lived in Texas for one year, you may qualify based on your visa status or other factors. Refer to residency tree to see if you are eligible.

What is a tax transcript and why do I have to submit it? A tax transcript is basically a receipt from the federal government that they have received your tax information. Colleges are using this to prove that your information was sent to the federal government. It is smart to go ahead and order them even if you have not been requested to turn them in. You can order them here: http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript

Admissions

Will colleges decline me on the basis of my immigration status? No, colleges will not decline your application based on your status. However, some private schools will consider you an international student, which means you will compete for admission in the international pool. Often, this pool of applicants is slightly more competitive than the pool of domestic students.

Should I write about my immigration status in my college essay? This is entirely up to you. If your status has significantly affected you in a way that you feel would be beneficial for colleges to understand, you should include it in your essays. However, it is important to realize that you do not know who will read your essay. Unfortunately, this is a highly political and polarized issue. If this essay got into the wrong hands there could be potential for unnecessary negative judgment. There is no clear answer in this question. It is a decision you need to make on your own while valuing all pros and cons.

Why should I go to college if I can’t work? Actually, with DACA, you could apply for a Work Authorization Number which allows you the opportunity to be employed legally in the U.S. More importantly, you want to prepare yourself for when the DREAM Act passes. No one can ever take your education away. No one can take away your self-empowerment.

Are some schools friendly to immigrant students than others? Yes, some schools are more immigrant friendly, most significantly in terms of financial aid. To find out, you should call their financial aid department and ask what aid immigrant students are eligible for. Also, the culture of a school can make it feel friendlier than others. To truly understand the culture, you should try and visit the campus. Often high schools offer trips for students, so check in with your counselor to find out if there is a trip to a school you are interested in. Also, many private schools have Multicultural Weekends, where they pay for students to visit the campus. Check in with each school to see if they may offer this.

Should I put international student when I apply? For all Texas Public Schools on Apply Texas DO NOT apply as an international student. You apply as a ‘US Freshman’. However, on certain private schools you may need to contact the individual school to determine if you should apply as an international or domestic incoming freshman.

Why do I have to send everything through mail? You just need to send your affidavit and your TASFA and/or FAFSA in the mail because colleges currently do not have an online system to track these items.
Frequently Asked Tax Questions:
Undocumented Students or Parents

Q: How can you file an income tax return if you don’t have a social security number?

The IRS wants everyone to file their taxes, regardless of their immigration and citizenship status. Individuals without social security numbers may apply for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). ITINs are tax processing numbers that are nine-digits, begin with the number 9 and have a 7 or 8 as the fourth digit.

ITINs are for federal tax reporting only, and are not intended to serve any other purpose. An ITIN does not authorize work in the U.S. or provide eligibility for Social Security benefits or the Earned Income Tax Credit. ITINs are not valid identification outside the tax system. IRS issues ITINs to help individuals comply with the U.S. tax laws, and to provide a means to efficiently process and account for tax returns and payments for those not eligible for Social Security Numbers.

Q: Is it safe to file if you are an undocumented worker?

Yes, it is safe to apply for and ITIN and file your taxes. ITINs are not used by the government to track undocumented workers. In fact, filing taxes is considered to be a mark of good citizenship by the federal government.

Q: Why should you file an income tax return if you are an undocumented worker? What are the benefits?

Many people filing taxes will receive a refund. If you are an undocumented worker, you can only get your refund by applying for an ITIN and filing your taxes. ITINs also allow you to claim dependents and obtain the child tax credit if applicable. Finally, you can also use your ITIN to build a wage record with the Social Security Administration. Your ITIN will not make you eligible for Social Security benefits. But you can start a wage record so that later you may become eligible for Social Security benefits. Filing a tax return also will help when you file to adjust your immigration status; it is proof of your “good moral character,” your residency in the U.S., and your marital status.

Q: Who can get an ITIN?

Examples of individuals who need ITINs include:

- Non-resident alien filing a U.S. tax return and not eligible for a SSN
- U.S. resident alien (based on days present in the United States) filing a U.S. tax return and not eligible for a SSN
- Dependent or spouse of U.S. citizen/resident alien
- Dependent or spouse of a non-resident alien visa holder

Q: How do you get an ITIN?

An ITIN is obtained by filling out a Form W-7, attaching it to an original tax return and providing two forms of identification to the IRS. These documents must be originals, certified by the agency that issued them, or notarized by a U.S. notary. If you get your taxes done at a Community Tax Center through Foundation Communities, they will guide you through this process. For Community Tax Center locations visit [www.foundcom.org](http://www.foundcom.org)

Q: Are you self employed?

If you are in business for yourself, or carry on a trade or business as a sole proprietor or an independent contractor, you probably are self employed and will file Schedule C or Schedule C-EZ with your Form 1040.

Q: How can you file an income tax return if you are paid in cash or with checks by a company or contractor? What documents do you need?

The IRS requires you to report all of your income, whether you’re paid by cash or check. If you are hired to do a job...
and you decide when, where and how to complete that work, you are probably self-employed. You may receive a Form 1099-MISC, and you will need this document when you file your taxes. If you work for yourself or as a contractor, it is important to keep a calendar or notebook in which you write your income. You may use this same calendar or notebook to keep track of all your business expenses. (Examples of some such expenses may include tools, mileage, and business insurance.)

If you are hired to do a job and the person who hires you tells you when, where and how to do the work, you are probably an employee and should receive a Form W-2.

Q: Will you get a refund if you are self employed? Won’t you have to always pay taxes on that income?

When you are an employee, your employer pays half of your payroll taxes and withhelds the other half from your paychecks. When you are self-employed, you must pay these taxes yourself. This is called self-employment tax and is the Social Security and Medicare tax owed on your earnings.

Q: How can you file an income tax return if you use an invalid SSN to work? Can you still file if your W 2 shows that SSN? Can you get back any of the taxes withheld?

If you use an invalid SSN to work, you may get an ITIN to file your tax return. Your earnings under the SSN will be attributed to your ITIN. If you are eligible for a refund, the IRS will send your refund after you file your taxes. Again, if you get your taxes done at a Community Tax Center through Foundation Communities, they will guide you through this process. For Community Tax Center locations visit www.found.com.org.

Q: When should a dependent (young, high school age or college age) file their own income tax return? Do I include my dependent’s income on my income tax return?

You will not include your dependent’s income on your own tax return. Dependents complete their own tax forms but indicate that someone else is claiming them as a dependent. Dependents are required to file their own taxes if their income was more than $7,100 in 2009. If their income was less than this, they still may want to file in order to get a refund of any federal withholdings.

Q: What are the income amounts at which people are not required by the IRS to file an income tax return? The amounts below are for 2009 only: these numbers change every year.

For single people:
- Under 65--$9,350
- 65 or older--$10,750

For the head of household:
- Under 65--$12,000
- 65 or older--$13,400

Married, filing jointly:
- Both under 65--$18,700
- One 65 or older--$19,800
- Both 65 or older--$20,900

Married, filing separately:
- Any age--$3,650

Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child(ren):
- Under 65--$15,050
- 65 or older--$16,150

---

1 IRS ITIN information http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=96287,00.html#what
2 Texas Taxpayer Assistance Project ITIN information http://lawhelp.org/program/4290/RTF1.cfm?page=individu%20Taxpayer%20Identification%20Number%20%20BITIN%20
3 IRS Small business information http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=115045,00 .html
4 IRS Publication 4012, page A-1
If you do not have legal immigration status in the United States, you are at risk. Keep these points in mind:

1. If approached by immigration authorities, do not sign any papers and do not talk to them unless you check with a lawyer first.

2. Stay out of trouble with the law. In some places, police will hand your name over to immigration authorities. In many places, the police will not do that—but if you commit a crime, that will make it harder to get legal status in the future.

3. If you are charged with a crime, make sure your lawyer knows your immigration status. That will allow them to best help you.

4. Don’t cross the border. Once you leave the country, you can’t legally re-enter the U.S.

5. If you are working illegally, you should still pay taxes. This will improve your chances of getting legal papers in the future. See the section “How to get a green card” for more info.

6. If you’re male, register for the “Selective Service” when you turn 18. The immigration police will NOT see your information. Like paying taxes, this will make it easier to get legal papers in the future.

7. If at all possible, try to become a legal resident. See the section “How to get a green card.”

8. Having a child will not help you become legal. Some people believe this, but it is not true. A child can only help its parent get papers if the child is over 21 years old.

9. Do not lie and say you are a U.S. citizen when you are not. This could hurt your chances of ever getting a green card or get you deported.
Updates on the DREAM Act

The Dream Act stands for Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors and is a bill which, if passed as a law, would give qualifying undocumented young people a path to citizenship. Most recently S. 744, the historic bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill that passed the Senate on June 27, 2013 by a vote of 68-32, incorporates key provisions from the DREAM act. S. 744’s DREAM provisions would provide a direct road to US citizenship for undocumented youth who graduate from US high schools and attend college or perform military service.

Through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, introduced by President Obama on June 15, 2012, some of these young people have received temporary permission to stay in the U.S. for two years. However, DACA recipients are still without a road to lawful permanent resident (LPR) status or U.S. citizenship. Under current law, DREAMers generally derive their status solely from their parents, and if their parents are undocumented or in immigration limbo, most have no way to obtain legal residency, even if they have lived most of their lives in the U.S.

Overview: DREAM provisions in S. 744

S. 744 would enact the following changes to current law:

- Permit students who have grown up in the U.S. to apply for registered provisional immigrant (RPI) status and eventually to obtain LPR status (a “green card”) if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.
- Provide an expedited pathway — it would take 5 years — from RPI status to LPR status and citizenship.
- Allow young people who have been deported to apply to reenter the U.S. if they meet the eligibility requirements of S. 744’s DREAM provisions.
- Improve college affordability for DREAMers and other immigrants by changing rules that limit their access to in-state tuition and college loans.

If enacted, S. 744’s DREAM provisions may also result in the creation of streamlined procedures by which young people who have already received DACA could adjust to permanent legal immigration status (see below). Moreover, the DREAM provisions would have a life-changing impact on the young people who qualify to adjust to legal status under them, dramatically increasing their average future earnings and, consequently, the contribution they would make to their communities via the taxes they would pay.

Adjustment to lawful status

S. 744 would make it possible for certain undocumented immigrants to obtain RPI status. To be eligible, they would have to have been physically present in the U.S. on or before December 31, 2011, have maintained
continuous presence until the date they apply for RPI status, have paid taxes, fees and penalties, and not have been convicted of certain criminal offenses. Individuals granted RPI status would be considered to be lawfully present in the U.S. as of the date they filed their RPI application. They would be authorized to work and would be eligible to be issued Social Security numbers. DREAMers first would need to apply for RPI status, either through the regular process as a primary applicant or a dependent of a primary applicant, or through a streamlined process for DACA recipients. After being in RPI status for 5 years, DREAMers would be able to apply to adjust to LPR status (see below).

Adjustment from RPI status to lawful permanent residence and citizenship

**Generally.** Under S. 744, generally people who had been in RPI status for 10 years would be eligible to apply to adjust to LPR (green card) status. They would then have to be in LPR status for 3 years before they would be eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship. A person with RPI status would not be able to apply directly for citizenship without first adjusting to LPR status.

**DREAMers.** People who qualify under S. 744’s DREAM provisions, however, would be eligible to apply for LPR status after being in RPI status for only 5 years. Furthermore, once they were granted LPR status, they would be eligible immediately to apply for U.S. citizenship. To qualify for this expedited road to LPR status and citizenship, DREAMers would have to have:

- Entered the U.S. prior to the age of 16;
- Earned a high school diploma or obtained a general education development certificate (GED); and
- Received a degree from an institution of higher education or completed 2 years in a program for a bachelor’s or higher degree or served honorably for 4 years in the military.

**DACA recipients.** The secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) might adopt streamlined procedures by which DREAMers who have already been granted DACA could adjust to LPR status.

College affordability

The DREAM provisions of S. 744 would repeal section 505 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), which currently discourages states from making students eligible for in-state tuition or providing them other higher education benefits without regard to their immigration status. The DREAM provisions would also allow RPIs who entered the U.S. before their sixteenth birthday to be eligible for federal student loans. These loans would also be available for anyone in “blue card” status through S. 744’s agricultural worker legalization provisions.

For more information about DREAM provision in S. 744 see:

National Immigration Law Center  http://www.nilc.org/DREAMinS744.html
http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.729:
www.dreamact.info
www.dreamactivist.org
Updates on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)\(^5\)

On June 15, 2012, President Obama signed a memo calling for deferred action for certain undocumented young people who came to the U.S. as children and have pursued education or military service here. Applications under the program which is called Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") began on August 15, 2012.

**What does “deferred action” mean?**

Deferred action is a discretionary grant of relief by DHS. It can be granted to individuals who are in removal proceedings, who have final orders of removal, or who have never been in removal proceedings. Individuals who have deferred action status can apply for employment authorization and are in the U.S. under color of law. However, there is no direct path from deferred action to lawful permanent residence or to citizenship and it can be revoked at any time.

**Who is eligible for DACA relief?**

Individuals who meet the following criteria can apply for deferred action for childhood arrivals:

- Were born on or after June 16, 1981
- Came to the U.S. while under the age of 16;
- Have continuously resided in the U.S. since June 15, 2007 to the present. (For purposes of calculating this five year period, brief and innocent absences from the United States for humanitarian reasons will not be included);
- Entered the U.S. without inspection before June 15, 2012, or individuals whose lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012; and must not have a lawful immigration status at the time of application
- Be at least 15 years old, unless currently in deportation proceedings, have a voluntary departure order or have a deportation order and are not in immigration detention (in these cases can apply before the age of 15)
- Are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the Coast Guard or armed forces;
- Have not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor, or more than three misdemeanors and do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Applicants will have to provide documentary evidence of the above criteria. Documents such as financial records (lease agreements, phone bills, credit card bills), medical records, school records (diplomas, GED certificates, report cards, school transcripts), employment records, and military records, can be used. In order to prove that you have lived in the U.S. continuously since June 15, 2007, you must provide documents that prove you were in the U.S. during that period. As a rule of thumb, consider submitting a document for each 12-month period since June 15, 2007. If you do not have documents to establish that you were in the U.S. for a significant part of the period between June 2007 and the present time (in other words, if there is a gap in your documentation), consider submitting affidavits from at least two individuals who have personal knowledge that you were in the U.S. during that gap.

In addition, every applicant must complete and pass a biographic and biometric background check.

---

\(^5\) Information retrieved from the National Immigration Law Center [http://www.nilc.org/dreamdeferred.html]
The application fee is $465, which consists of a $380 fee for the employment authorization application and an $85 fee for fingerprints. Fee waivers are not available. However, fee exemptions will be available in very limited circumstances.

How does the DACA renewal process work?

If you were granted DACA and continue to meet the guidelines for DACA, you may submit an application to renew your DACA. You must also meet the following requirements in order to qualify for DACA renewal:

- You must not have departed the U.S. on or after August 15, 2012, without first having been granted advance parole.[3]
- You must have resided continuously in the U.S. from the time you submitted the initial request for DACA up until the present time.
- You must not have been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanors, and must not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

You may apply for to renew your DACA any time before the date your current DACA and employment authorization document (EAD) expire. However, we recommend that you not submit your renewal application more than 150 days (or 5 months) before your DACA expiration date. USCIS may reject and return any DACA renewal application submitted more than 150 days (5 months) before the applicant’s DACA and EAD expire.

To find your DACA expiration date, do either of the following:

- Look at the I-797 Notice of Action under “Notice Type”
- Look at your EAD under “Card Expires”

USCIS expects that if you submit your renewal application approximately 120 days before your DACA expiration date, it will be able to review your application and either grant or deny it before your DACA expires. However, if you file a renewal application at least 120 days before the expiration date and USCIS doesn’t grant or deny the renewal before the expiration date, USCIS may extend your DACA and work authorization for a short period of time until your renewal request is adjudicated. Therefore, it is very important that you submit your renewal application no later than 120 days before your DACA and EAD expire.

This is a complicated process.

Do not take advice from a notary public or an immigration consultant.

People who have DACA or want to apply for it are advised to consult with a qualified immigration lawyer or an accredited representative for advice about their case. The following community resources are recommended sources of information for students interested in applying.

UT Immigration Law Clinic
http://www.utexas.edu/law/clinics/immigration/daca.php
512-232-1292

University Leadership Initiative
uli.utaustin@gmail.com
512-703-0228

Catholic Charities
www.ccctx.org
512-651-6100

American Gateways
512-478-0546
DACA Resources in Texas

General Resources:
- Texas Law Help has a map of DACA assistance available in Texas counties.
- United We Dream offers personalized DACA renewal reminders.

Organizations marked with ★ have been confirmed to offer free legal assistance. Organizations without stars can still be excellent options, however, and may be able to reduce or waive their fees for you.

★ American Gateways
  Area: Austin and San Antonio
  Services: Free immigration-related legal services
  Method: Apply during walk-in visit, lawyer assigned to your case if approved
  Events: N/A
  Contact
  - Location and hours: Walk-ins from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday at Austin office: 314 East Highland Mall Boulevard, Suite 501
  - E-mail: Online form at americangateways.org
  - Phone: (512) 478-0546

Casa de Proyecto Libertad
  Area: Rio Grande Valley
  Services: Low-cost legal defense and advocacy for Central American immigrants seeking asylum
  Method: Call the office or drop by to inquire into becoming a client of Proyecto Libertad
  Events: N/A
  Contact
  - Location and hours: 113 North 1st Street, Harlingen, TX 78550 and open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed for lunch between 12 and 12:30 p.m. every day except Thursday, when Proyecto Libertad is closed between 12 and 2 p.m.)
  - E-mail: rogelio@proyectolibertad.net
  - Phone: (956) 425-9552
  - Website: proyectolibertad.net

Catholic Charities Central Texas
  Area: Austin and the Brazos Valley
  Services: Initial consultations and low-cost legal assistance
  Method: Call the office to make an appointment.
  Events: N/A
  Contact
  - E-mail: Online form at ccctx.org/about/contact-us/
  - Phone: (512) 651-6100
  - Website: ccctx.org/ils/

Catholic Charities of Corpus Christi, Inc.
  Area: Corpus Christi
Services: Low-cost legal assistance for immigrants and refugees, including DACA
Method: Call the office to make an appointment or walk-in on Thursdays starting at 9 a.m. at the office. Consultations are $25 per session with the possibility of additional fees depending on the type of service needed.
Events: N/A
Contact
● Location: 1322 Comanche, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
● E-mail: CatholicCharities@Diocesecc.org
● Phone: (361) 884-0651
● Facebook: facebook.com/catholiccharitiesofcc
● Twitter: twitter.com/ccharities_cctx
● Website: catholiccharities-cc.org/index.cfm?load=page&page=170

Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.
Area: Dallas
Services: Immigration-related legal services
Method: First-come, first-served individual consultations at Central Office location; appointments pre-arranged by phone at West Dallas locations
Events: N/A
Contact
● Central Office location and hours: Walk-ins from 7:30 a.m., Tuesday through Saturday, 9461 LBJ Freeway, Suite 100, Dallas, TX
● West Dallas location and hours: By appointment Monday to Friday starting at 8 a.m. at West Dallas Family Service Center, 2843 Lapsley St, Dallas, TX
● E-mail: daca@ccdallas.org
● Phone: (214) 217-5600 to schedule appointment at West Dallas location
● Website: catholiccharitiesdallas.org/programs/immigration-legal-services/deferred-action/

Catholic Charities Fort Worth
Area: Fort Worth
Services: Low-cost immigration and refugee legal assistance and educational presentations for groups by request
Method: First-come, first-served individual consultations at office; no consultations by phone.
Events: N/A
Contact
● Location and hours: Walk-ins from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday at 249 W. Thornhill Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76110
● E-mail: ics@ccdofw.org
● Website: catholiccharitiesfortworth.sitewrench.com/immigrationservices

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
Area: Galveston and Houston
Services: Various, including DACA workshops
Method: Workshops for which participants must pre-register by phone or in-person consultation, pre-arranged by phone
Events:
- DACA workshop - Friday, October 17 at 1:30 p.m., Cabrini Center Main Office, 2900 Louisiana Street, Houston, Tx 77006
- DACA workshop - Wednesday, November 19 at 1:30 p.m., Cabrini Center Main Office, 2900 Louisiana Street, Houston, Tx 77006

Contact
- Phone: (713) 874-6572 or (281) 202-6257

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc.
Area: San Antonio
Services: Various, including legal assistance for DACA and other immigration issues
Method: First-come, first-served consultations on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. Consultations are in person and cost $35, which can be paid only by money order or credit card (no cash or check payments). The fee is waived for victims of crime, domestic violence, and human trafficking.
Events: N/A
Contact
- Phone: (713) 874-6572 or (281) 202-6257
- Website: ccaosa.org/immigration/immigration.html

Catholic Charities of Southeast Texas
Area: Beaumont and Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk, and Tyler Counties
Services: Immigration-related legal assistance. Fees apply, but clients sometimes receive reduced or waived fees.
Method: Call to see what services would be appropriate.
Events: N/A
Contact
- Phone: (409) 924-4410
- Website: catholiccharitiesbmt.org/pages/programs/immigration.html

Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle
Area: Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle
Services: Immigration- and citizenship-related legal assistance
Method: Call to schedule a consultation.
Events: N/A
Contact
- Phone: (806)-350-4606
- Website: catholiccharitiesbmt.org/pages/programs/immigration.html

★ Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc. (DMRS)
Area: El Paso
Services: Free or discounted immigration-related legal services (see website for instructions to qualify for Free Legal Services)
Method: Apply during walk-in visit, lawyer assigned to your case if approved
Events: N/A
Contact
- Location and hours: Walk-ins from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday at El Paso office, 2400A East Yandell Ave., El Paso, TX
- Phone: (512) 478-0546 (case-related questions are not answered over the phone)
- Website: dmrs-ep.org/services/free-legal-services/

★ The Equal Justice Center
Area: Central Texas, northeast Texas, Panhandle, plus occasional travel

Services: Free phone screenings, answers for questions, appointments, DACA information sessions and application clinics
Method: Over-the-phone evaluation and follow-up services and/or public events
Events
  - N/A (see calendar for updates)
Contact
  - E-mail: Online form at austindaca.org
  - Phone: (888) 670-6854

★ Human Rights Initiative
Area: Dallas
Services: Free legal services in immigration cases involving human rights infringements
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact
  - Phone: (214) 855-0520
  - Website: hrionline.org/

Iglesia Del Hogar Centro de Asistencia de Inmigración
Area: San Antonio
Services: Various, including assistance filling out DACA forms
Method: Drop in or call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact:
  - Phone: (210) 433-9993

Immigration Counseling Center
Area: Houston
Services: Various, including assistance filling out DACA forms
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact:
  ● Phone: (713) 953-0047

Imigration Services and Aid Center
Area: San Antonio
Services: Various, including assistance filling out DACA forms
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact:
  ● Phone: (210) 924-4338 ext 225
  ● Website: http://www.isaacproject.org/

★ Justice for Our Neighbors DFW
Area: Dallas, Tarrant
Services: Various, including assistance filling out DACA forms and court representation
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events: Special DACA Clinics are offered on most Tuesdays. Offer quarterly clinics at Georgetown First United Methodist Church.
Contact:
  ● Phone: 817-310-3820
  ● Website: https://www.jfondfw.org/

Las Americas
Area: El Paso
Services: Presentations on DACA, general legal aid for immigrants
Method: Drop in; call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact:
  ● (915) 544-512
  ● http://las-americas.org/

Neighborhood Centers
Area: Houston
Services: DACA assistance and forums
Method: Call for appointment
Events: Check website to see upcoming events
Contact:
  ● 713-273-3707
  ● http://www.immigrationforgood.org/

New Hope Immigration Services
Area: Dallas, Rockwall
Services: DACA renewal assistance
Method: Make appointment online or by phone
Events: N/A
Contact:
  ● http://www.newhopeims.org/
Opening Doors International Services, Inc.
Area: Denton
Services: Will provide legal assistance and representation before the USCIS office
Method: Walk-ins welcome; can schedule an appointment online
Events: N/A
Contact:
  ● (940) 382-0096
  ● http://www.odisinc.org/

Proyecto Inmigrante ICS, Inc. (Dallas Office)
Area: Dallas, Fort Worth, Texoma
Services: Will provide legal assistance and representation before the USCIS office. The services to be provided, for a reasonable amount, are legal document translations, an FBI background check, a CBP background check, and a minimum of three applications to be filed.
Method: Call to make an appointment
Events (details here)
Contact:
  ● http://www.proyectoinmigrante.org/
  ● Tuesdays to Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  ● (888) 793-2182
  ● Phone number and hours may vary depending on location- check with website to confirm.

★★ Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)
Area: San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Del Rio, Victoria, San Angelo, and nearby
Services: Initial and renewal DACA application processing by appointment, other legal services for immigrants
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events: N/A
Contact
  ● E-mail: Online form at raicestexas.org/
  ● Phone: (210) 526-0205 or 1-844-322-2669

★★ St. Mary’s DACA Project
Area: San Antonio, Laredo, and Bexar, Atascosa, Dimmit, McMullen, La Salle, Frio, Zavala, Duval, Webb and Maverick counties
Services: Information sessions and appointments for DACA applicants
Method: Call for individual appointments
Events:
  ● N/A
Contact
  ● Phone: (210) 431-5730 (Maria Calixto at (210) 436-3953 can also provide information)
  ● E-mail: stmarysdream@stmarytx.edu
  ● Website: https://www.stmarytx.edu/st-marys-daca-project-offers-free-services-dreamers/

★★ Texas Civil Rights Project
Area: Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, East Texas, and the Permian Basin of West Texas
Services: Free information and legal assistance from licensed attorney
Method: Call for assistance
Events: N/A
Contact
  ● Phone: (956) 787-8171, extension 102 or 105

★ University Leadership Initiative
Area: Austin
Services: Initial and renewal DACA application processing by appointment, other legal services for immigrants
Method: Info forums and clinics open to the public, register beforehand
Events
  ● DACA clinic - Austin, TX - Saturday, October 25, time and place TBA
Contact
  ● E-mail: Online form at universityleadershipinitiative.org/contact-us/
  ● Facebook: facebook.com/ULItx

★ UT Law Pro Bono Program
Area: Austin
Services: Free DACA clinics
Method: Call for individual appointments and a screening interview or e-mail Sonja Hartley with your name and phone number.
Events: TBA
Contact
  ● Phone: (512) 232-1292
  ● E-mail: immigration@law.utexas.edu (Sonja Hartley)
Website: utexas.edu/law/clinics/immigration/daca.php
Scholarship List

Because many scholarships require students have a social security number, it can be difficult for undocumented students to find scholarships for which they are eligible. Our scholarship list aims to help undocumented students find the resources available to them by identifying scholarships that do not list citizenship/immigration status or a social security number as a requirement. Because scholarship details may have changed since information was last researched, please verify deadlines and requirements.

Websites with up-to-date lists of scholarships for undocumented students:

- College Greenlight: http://www.collegegreenlight.com/blog/undocumented-student-scholarships-any-field-of-study/
- MALDEF: http://www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships/
- 10,000 Degrees: http://www.10000degrees.org/students/scholarships/undocumented-students/
- Choose Your Future: http://www.chooseyourfuture.org/college/undocumented-students#scholarship

Hints for Applying to Scholarships

**Institutional Scholarships**: Students should apply to institutional scholarships because the majority of the merit scholarships at public universities are open to all students. Thus, institutional scholarships are not listed in this section.

**Local, State, and National Scholarships**: Usually, a student is most likely to receive a local scholarship because there are fewer students competing for the same award.