



# **College Access for Undocumented Students Toolkit**

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**Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition**  
2100 Arch Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Phone: (215) 832-0636 — Fax: (215) 832-0527 — Web: [www.paimmigrant.org](http://www.paimmigrant.org)

Undocumented students face unique challenges when applying for college. Some colleges and universities view undocumented students as out-of-state or international students, and charge higher tuition rates than for other residents of Pennsylvania. Many scholarships and types of financial aid are not open to undocumented students. For many students, this means putting a hold on or ending to dreams of attending college.

PICC is committed to advocating for policy changes that will level the playing field, and allow undocumented students to qualify for the same tuition rates and local scholarships available to other residents of Pennsylvania. While we work to enact these policies, this toolkit contains tips and resources to help undocumented students navigate the sometimes complicated work of applying for college and financial aid.

**DISCLAIMER: The information in this toolkit is based on personal experience of students, educators and members of PICC across Pennsylvania and has been compiled by our staff.** We want this resource guide to be as comprehensive and useful as possible. We update this toolkit twice a year. If you know of any resources not listed in here or outdated, please let us know! Contact Maria Sotomayor at [mariasotomayor@paimmigrant.org](mailto:mariasotomayor@paimmigrant.org) or 215-832-3482 if you have any feedback, suggestions, or edits.

**Get involved!** It is everyone's responsibility to continue pushing for access to education for ALL students regardless of immigration status. We encourage immigrant youth from all backgrounds to get involved! Share your stories and experiences, tell family and friends. Don't remain in silence. We will support you along the way. Teachers, school counselors and allies are also welcome! Be part of our movement and fight for education justice for all students of Pennsylvania.

This toolkit is divided into three sections:

- Scholarships and Financial Aid
- Admission and Financial Aid Policies at Pennsylvania Schools
- General and Community Resources
- Update of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

### **Note to Institutions of Higher Education**

Institutions of higher education should continue to fight back and support ALL students regardless of immigration status. If you are a university that supports undocumented students and don't see your information in this toolkit or your information is not up to date, please contact Maria Sotomayor at [mariasotomayor@paimmigrant.org](mailto:mariasotomayor@paimmigrant.org).

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

### Scholarship tips:

- Look for private scholarships that don't require proof of legal status or citizenship
- Call your school(s) of choice and ask about private scholarship opportunities

### National Scholarship Resources:

Visit these sites for lists of scholarships available for undocumented students. Make sure to review the rules for applying and keep track of application deadlines.

**Immigrants Rising** has scholarships open to undocumented students in undergraduate and master's programs, visit their website to find list of upcoming scholarships, resources for educators and students.

<https://immigrantsrising.org>

**La Unidad Latina Foundation (LULF)** in the past this organization funded the DREAM Scholarship Program- supporting undocumented students in the US, National Scholarship Program - Open to all students and Puerto Rican Relief Scholarship - Supporting students enrolled and attending college or university on the island of Puerto Rico. Visit [lulf.org](http://lulf.org).

**Generation Progress:** Over 30 scholarships listed.

<http://genprogress.org/about/scholarships-for-undocumented-students-2/>

**Golden Doors Scholars:** <http://www.goldendoorscholars.org/application/open>

four-year tuition and room and board scholarships to DACA and TPS students who are pursuing a four-year degree at Golden Door partner schools

**Microsoft Scholarship:** <https://careers.microsoft.com/us/en/usscholarshipprogram>

**The Geneseo Immigrant Center:** <http://migrant.net/scholarships/index>.

**Que Lleva Café Scholarship :**[http://www.ca-core.org/que\\_lleva\\_cafe\\_scholarship\\_program](http://www.ca-core.org/que_lleva_cafe_scholarship_program)

**United We Dream:** <http://unitedwedream.org/blog/6-scholarship-opportunities-undocumented-students>

**College Green Light:** Undocumented students

section.<http://blog.collegegreenlight.com/blog/easy-scholarships-for-undocumented-students>

**Univision Scholarship-** Open to Undocumented students

[mydocumentedlife.org/2016/01/08/2016-2017-becas-univision-scholarship-open-to-undocumented-students/](http://mydocumentedlife.org/2016/01/08/2016-2017-becas-univision-scholarship-open-to-undocumented-students/)

**Dreamer's Roadmap:** Mobile app to help undocumented students find scholarships.

<http://dreamersroadmap.com>

**Questbridge:**Matches low income high school students with private universities that offer Questbridge scholars full financial aid. Many schools that partner with Questbridge will consider undocumented students.

[www.questbridge.org/](http://www.questbridge.org/)

**Princeton Prize in Race Relations:** Be currently enrolled in grades 9-12 in participating regions. Demonstrate strong activism in race relations. [www.princeton.edu/pprize/application](http://www.princeton.edu/pprize/application)

**Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans:** <https://www.pdsoros.org>

## Admission and Financial Aid Policies at Pennsylvania Schools

\***CCS-** The **CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE** (often written as **CSS PROFILE**), short for the College Scholarship Service Profile, is an application distributed by the College Board in the United States allowing college students to apply for financial aid. It is primarily designed to give private member institutions of the College Board a closer look into the finances of a student and family. It is much more detailed than the FAFSA.

- The CSS Profile asks questions about the financial status of the student and the student's parents. The information the student gives in the CSS Profile is then sent to colleges or universities that the student specifies.
- Along with the FAFSA, the CSS Profile is the most common financial aid application that students in the United States fill out.
- **Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE)**- 14 Universities that make up the PASSHE system provide in-state tuition rates to anyone who has been “domiciled” in Pennsylvania.<sup>1</sup> “Domicile” is defined as “[t]he place where one intends to reside permanently or indefinitely and does in fact so reside.”<sup>2</sup> Under this policy, undocumented students may pay in-state tuition if they can provide clear and convincing evidence of having been “domiciled” in Pennsylvania.<sup>3</sup>

**PASSHE Schools:** Bloomsburg, Cheyney, East Stroudsburg, Indiana, Lock Haven, Millersville, Slippery Rock, California, Clarion, Edinboro, Kutztown, Mansfield, Shippensburg, West Chester

- Other Pennsylvania state schools may consider admitting undocumented students at in-state tuition rates but such practices are neither uniform nor part of an established policy.

**Help us stay updated on new policies, advocates, scholarships, etc. Please take a few minutes to share your experience applying to schools by filling out our survey: [tinyurl.com/tuitionequitysurvey](http://tinyurl.com/tuitionequitysurvey)**

Institution	Admission Policy for Undocumented Students	Financial Aid Availability	Contact Advocates	Updated
<b>Albright College</b>	Considered international students. The student must complete an international student form showing how they will fund their education.	Phi Theta members can receive a scholarship between \$27,000 and \$30,000. This is a scholarship open to anyone.	Myrna Fuchs <a href="mailto:myrnashfuchs@gmail.com">myrnashfuchs@gmail.com</a>	11/5/18

<sup>1</sup> 22 PA. CODE § 507.2 (2015).

<sup>2</sup> 22 PA. CODE § 507.1 (2015).

<sup>3</sup>22 PA. CODE § 507.3(2) (2015).

Institution	Admission Policy for Undocumented Students	Financial Aid Availability	Contact Advocates	Updated
<b>Alvernia University</b>	<p>No information available on student category consideration</p> <p>Students can get connected with the college through the Olivet College Access Program</p>	<p>Reading Collegiate Scholars Scholarship Program Financial aid available</p> <p>DACA students may be eligible for full tuition depending on education achievement</p>	<p>Myrna Fuchs myrnashfuchs@gmail.com</p>	11/5/18
<b>Community College Of Philadelphia</b>	<p>Considered in-state students</p>	<p>unknown</p>		9/19/18
<b>Delaware County Community College</b>	<p>First Community college to publicly announce “open door policy” for undocumented students. Undocumented students receive in-county rates as long as the student graduated from a sponsoring district. Other district students will receive in-state tuition rate. Check the “No Status” check box in application</p>	<p>Scholarships for undocumented students available: <b>“Future Citizens” and “Dream Scholarship”</b> – Please check website for more information and dates</p>	<p>Veronica Rodriguez vrodriguez6@dccc.edu</p> <p>Jose mazanett jmazenett@dccc.edu</p>	12/15/17
<b>Delaware Valley University</b>	<p>Reviewed by state of residence</p>	<p>Merit Scholarships available regardless of status</p> <p>Multicultural Student Scholarship</p>	<p>Maria Cabrera <a href="mailto:maria.cabrera@delval.edu">maria.cabrera@delval.edu</a></p>	9/19/18
<b>Eastern University</b>	<p>International student</p>	<p>unknown</p>		9/19/18

Institution	Admission Policy for Undocumented Students	Financial Aid Availability	Contact Advocates	Updated
<b>Franklin and Marshall College</b>	<p>Considered international. Submit the school's International Financial Aid Form when applying for admission. Complete the CSS Profile and Parents' Tax Returns.</p> <p><a href="#">F&amp;M makes public commitment to create access to higher education for undocumented students</a></p>	<p>TheDream.US scholarship partner.</p> <p>DACA students in good academic stands and meet financial need can potentially receive full assistance for 4 years. Must apply and check in with Admissions</p>	<p>Dr. Freud robert.freund@fandm.edu</p>	<p>10/5/16</p>
<b>Gettysburg College</b>	<p>Considered international student</p> <p>Limited space for DACA students (4-5 spots per year)</p> <p>Part of TheDream.US national scholarship fund. Please check <a href="http://www.thedream.us/scholars">www.thedream.us/scholars</a> for more information</p>	<p>The Dream.US scholarship program for undocumented students provides financial aid for DACA students only. Please talk to a counselor at Gettysburg about this scholarship and any possible financial aid available to you</p>	<p>Mauricio Casa de La Cultura (Gettysburg)mauricionovoa03@gmail.com</p>	<p>12/8/16</p>
<b>Haverford College</b>	<p>Considered international students and fee waivers available. Complete Profile Application and submit tax returns. <a href="http://www.haverford.edu/financialaid/forms.php">http://www.haverford.edu/financialaid/forms.php</a> Financial aid is not available for transfer students.</p>	<p>Eligible for full need-based financial assistance. (only 3 spots available)</p>		
<b>Lafayette College</b>	<p>Considered international students. Meets the full demonstrated financial need of international students. Must complete the CSS Profile.</p>	<p>Financial aid available</p>	<p>Director of Admissions</p>	<p>11/2/17</p>

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Admission Policy for Undocumented Students</b>	<b>Financial Aid Availability</b>	<b>Contact Advocates</b>	<b>Updated</b>
<b>La Salle University</b>	<p>Considered in-state students.</p> <p>Talk to admissions counselor about status.</p>	Scholarship for undocumented students coming soon	<p>Associate Director of International Admissions Marc Vallone vallonem2@lasalle.edu</p> <p>Stephanie Brown brownsr@lasalle.edu</p>	10/13/17
<b>Lackawanna Community College</b>	Considered in-state and international students.	unknown		9/19/18
<b>Lehigh University</b>	<p>Considered international student.</p> <p>Complete the CSS Profile or International Student Financial Aid Application and the Certification of Finances.</p> <p>Lehigh College Access Program enrolled students may be eligible for full or partial tuition coverage (DACA &amp; non DACA)</p>	<p>Merit scholarships may also be awarded on a limited basis. No application is necessary for merit scholarships.</p> <p>Awards financial aid on the basis of demonstrated need.</p> <p>Transfer students are not eligible for need based or merit based financial aid.</p>	Myrna Fuchs myrnashfuchs@gmail.com	2/5/17
<b>Lycoming College's</b>	6 undocumented students will be funded in 2016		Myrna Fuchs myrnashfuchs@gmail.com	11/12/15
<b>Millersville University</b>	Considered in state student under PASSHE policy	Unknown		5/10/18
<b>Muhlenberg College</b>	<p>Considered as international student.</p> <p>General admissions application.</p>	Presidential merit scholarship and other merit scholarships available to undocumented students	Erika Sutherland Associate Professor of Spanish Office: 484-664-3518 emsuther@muhlenberg.edu	12/15/17

Institution	Admission Policy for Undocumented Students	Financial Aid Availability	Contact Advocates	Updated
<b>Neumann University</b>	Considered as International Complete International Student Application for Financial Aid and Scholarship when applying for admission	Offer private and presidential scholarships for students	Sr. Marguerite O’Bernie, OSF Vice President for Mission & Ministry 610-558-5511 mobernie@neumann.edu	10/5/18
<b>PASSHE Schools</b>	<p>In-state tuition rates for undocumented students residents of Pennsylvania.</p> <p>Apply as in-state student (see top for information on eligibility for in-state tuition.</p> <p>Some schools like: West Chester, Millersville, Kutztown follow this policy without much explanation from student on status. Reach out to the PASSHE school you wish to apply to learn about your application process and if there is any financial aid available.</p>	unknown		11/15/17
<b>Penn State University</b>	<p><b>No longer assigns DACA students in-state tuition rates. No in-state rates for undocumented (non DACA students, either)</b></p> <p>All students must pay international student rates.</p> <p>In the past students had to apply as “international students” and share with college counselor about DACA status and provide documentation of residency in Pennsylvania to obtain in-state tuition rate.</p>	<p>Unknown Merit scholarships for Science and Engineering</p> <p>Maybe able to get transfer scholarships</p>	<p>Eliel Acosta Admissions Counselor Mont Alto Campus eaa16@psu.edu 717- 749-6141</p> <p>Maria Tinoco Admissions Counselor at Berks County Penn State met16@psu.edu 610-396-6016</p>	11/29/17
<b>Reading Area Community College (RACC)</b>	<p>Identified as international students</p> <p>In county rates for DACA recipients only.</p> <p>Out of state rates for undocumented non DACA students even if they graduated in the Berks area.</p>	See Reading Financial Aid Resources for list of scholarships available		1/11/17



<b>Institution</b>	<b>Admission Policy for Undocumented Students</b>	<b>Financial Aid Availability</b>	<b>Contact Advocates</b>	<b>Updated</b>
<b>Rosemont College</b>	Considered international student	unknown	Betsy T. McKlaine Director of Admissions Rosemont College p: 610.527.0200 x2601 betsy.mcklaine@rosemont.edu	10/2/17
<b>Swarthmore College</b>	Considered domestic students Office to support immigrant students on campus Policy applies to transfer students too <a href="http://www.swarthmore.edu/admissions-aid/undocumented-students">www.swarthmore.edu/admissions-aid/undocumented-students</a>	Financial aid decision is offered to students on the basis of their demonstrated financial needs only.	Andrew Moe Associate Dean of Admissions 610-328-8300 Amoe1@swarthmore.edu	1/2/18
<b>Temple University</b>	Not clear: Considered international students or in-state students.  Many students have tried to challenge how Temple identifies undocumented students since some are classified as in-state and others as international students impacting their cost of tuition.	Unknown		9/19/18
<b>The Restaurant School At Walnut Hill College</b>	Considered in-state student	Unknown		3/23/16
<b>University of Pennsylvania</b>	Only need-based financial aid is awarded when admitted. (Committed to meeting 100% of student's determined need without loans.	Complete the Penn Financial Aid Supplement, the CSS Profile, and the Parents' and Student's Tax Returns  Penn for Immigrant Rights scholarship awarded to first generation immigrant or undocumented student		11/2/17

Institution	Admission Policy for Undocumented Students	Financial Aid Availability	Contact Advocates	Updated
West Chester University	Considered in-state students Online application has a "No status" check box	Small scholarship granted to undocumented students by Latino Led Organization. Students must apply for scholarship every year.	Professor Linda Stevenson l Stevenson@wcupa.edu  Student Liaison: Kim Cuellar KC770519@wcupa.edu	5/20/17

## General Resources

Department of Education Resource Guide: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/focus/supporting-undocumented-youth.pdf>

My Undocumented Life Blog- <https://mydocumentedlife.org/2016/09/12/scholarships-open-to-undocumented-students/>

United We Dream- The DREAM Educational - Empowerment Program DEEP [unitedwedream.org/about/projects/education-deep](http://unitedwedream.org/about/projects/education-deep)

How to fill out FAFSA for DACAmented student's webinar by UWD: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHfOu\\_I9fWw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHfOu_I9fWw)

Undocu- FAFSA and Common Application Tips for Undocumented Students video

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pn\\_ZkigpJvU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pn_ZkigpJvU)

National Immigration Law Center (NILC): [www.nilc.org/education](http://www.nilc.org/education)

National Council of La Raza Resource Guide: [www.nclr.org](http://www.nclr.org)

Dr. Juan Andrade Scholarship- [http://www.uskli.org/juan\\_andrade\\_scholarship.html](http://www.uskli.org/juan_andrade_scholarship.html)

Big Future by the College Board: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-undocumented-students>

Federal Student Aid: [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

Financial Aid and Undocumented Students:

[studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/financial-aid-and-undocumented-students.pdf](http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/financial-aid-and-undocumented-students.pdf)

## Community Resources

### Adams County

**The Beatrice and Sigfried Lowenthal Scholarship for First and Second Generation Immigrants Provided by the Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) Foundation and the Mexican Consulate Administered by Casa de la Cultura Scholarships** will be given to students who will be attending school in the spring or fall semester of 2018. Scholarships will be given to students based on Essay Responses, Financial Need and timely submission of required documentation. There is no age or citizenship restriction, priority will be given to students who have participated in the Migrant Education or 21st Century programs. The scholarship check will be written out to the institution the student will attend, including Universities, Colleges, Technical Schools and Community Colleges. [www.casagettysburg.org](http://www.casagettysburg.org)

### Berks County

**GRIP DREAMer Scholarship:** For students whose immigration status (or lack thereof) does not allow them to apply for student loans or grants. Applicants meet the following requirements to apply:

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- seniors at or graduates of a high school located in Berks County, Pennsylvania;
- Applicant's current primary home at time of application must be located in Berks County, Pennsylvania.
- Applicants must be age 30 or under, and it is preferred that applicants have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Status.
- Applicants who are high school seniors or who have not yet attended college must have obtained a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, or an 85% or higher on a 100% scale.
- Applicants who are currently attending college or who previously attended college must have obtained a college cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above in order to apply.
- Family income must be 187% of the federal poverty level or less (approximately \$44,000 for a family of four).

This scholarship is possible because of community support. You can make a tax-deductible donation to: Berks County Community Foundation, 237 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601. Att: GRIP DREAMer Scholarship. Visit [www.readinggrip.org](http://www.readinggrip.org) to learn more about GRIP.

**Reading Collegiate Scholars Scholarship Program:** Must go to a high school in the city of Reading which would include RHS, Berks Catholic and I-Lead.

**Olivet Boys and Girls Club Scholarship-** students must be members of the Boys and Girls of Reading

**Join the De Facto American Support Group.** Youth-led group for undocumented students, DACA recipients and citizen allies. DeFacto Americans provide education, resources, and emotional support to others who are in the pursuit of the American Dream. DeFacto meets the first Monday of every month in the evenings and is to high school and college students. Please e-mail [defactoamerican@gmail.com](mailto:defactoamerican@gmail.com) or visit <http://www.readinggrip.org/de-facto-american-support-group/> for more information or to express interest about attending a meeting.

#### Chester County

**Chester County Youth group:** meets the second Sunday of every month at 12pm at St. Agnes Day Room located on 233 West Gay Street, West Chester PA. Contact Maria Sotomayor at 215-832-3482.

**Chester County Luncheon:** Meets once a month in different locations to discuss issues and provide resources for the development of the Latino community of Chester County. The group also sponsors regular fundraisers to create scholarships for Chester county students. Last summer, DACA recipient became the first undocumented scholarship recipient. The group wants to continue supporting Latino students including undocumented Latino students.

**Newlin Foundation** – Open to students from Coatsville school district, undocumented students qualify for financial aid support and program guidance. Visit [www.newlinfoundation.org](http://www.newlinfoundation.org)

#### Delaware County

**Delco Youth Group:** PICC and Centro de Apoyo immigrant youth led group, meets the last Saturday of every month at 12pm at St. Alice Rectory located on 150 Hampton Drive, Upper Darby PA. Contact Maria Sotomayor

**Centro de Apoyo Comunitario:** community, women led organization in the heart of Upper Darby, serves as a point of resource for immigrant communities, primarily Latino but is open to all.

#### Philadelphia County

**Juntos:** Grassroots organization, serves Latino immigrant community in Philadelphia and Norristown. Visit [www.vamosjuntos.org](http://www.vamosjuntos.org) to learn more about Juntos youth leadership team Fuerza and obtain more information about college access.

## **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**

DACA is a procedure that allows certain non-citizens to stay in the US and work legally, without fear of deportation, for a period of 2 years. Those granted Deferred Action will be eligible for a work permit, social security card, and certain state ID's, such as a driver's license.

Deferred Action is NOT the Dream Act. It does not lead to permanent residency or a "green card."

**Please be careful with public notaries (notarios) and unscrupulous lawyers.**

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** Only certain young people will be able to continue to renew DACA permits. No first time applications will be accepted at this time. Please visit our website to sign up for PICC's newsletter to receive the latest updates on DACA and other immigration policies.

Who can apply for DACA?

- Anyone who has previously been granted DACA is eligible to apply.

**Please find a trusted legal service provider to determine if you qualify for renewal and apply immediately!**