

I'M UNDOCUMENTED CAN I GO TO COLLEGE?

APPLYING & PAYING FOR COLLEGE AS A
DREAMER IN WASHINGTON STATE



A presentation by the Latino/a Educational Achievement Project (LEAP),
a program of Sea Mar Community Health Centers



HISTORY

- Plyer vs. Doe
- State constitution
 - *All student who have lived in Washington, regardless of legal status, are guaranteed the right to have a free public education, from kindergarten through high school, or 12th grade.*
- Applying and enrolling into higher education



APPLYING TO COLLEGE

- Colleges charge different tuition rates based on your residency:
 - International
 - Out-of-State
 - In-State
- May be eligible to pay lower tuition rates based on state laws

WA TUITION RATE COMPARISONS

Out of State

- UW: \$31,971
- WWU: \$19,753
- CBC: \$6,365

In State

- UW: \$12,397
- WWU: \$8,863
- CBC: \$4,350

International

- Highline CC: \$9,235
- Renton Tech: \$9,300

In State

- Highline CC: \$4,000
- Renton Tech: \$5,735



GOVERNOR GARY LOCKE SIGNING HB 1079 INTO LAW WITH
ADVOCATES LOOKING ON

MAY 7TH, 2003

CRITERIA OF HB 1079

- Lived in WA **THREE YEARS** immediately prior to graduating from a WA state high school or it's equivalent and...
 - Continue to live in WA state.
 - Submit an affidavit stating you meet the conditions of this law to every school you apply to in WA state.

Image is
of 1079
affidavit

**Washington Higher Education Residency
Affidavit/Declaration/Certification**

Effective July 1, 2003, Washington state law changed the definition of "resident student." The law under certain students, who are not permanent residents or citizens of the United States, eligible for resident student status and eligible to enjoy resident tuition rates when they attend public colleges and universities in this state. The law does not make those students eligible to receive need-based state or federal financial aid. To qualify for resident status, students must complete this affidavit/declaration/certification if they are not permanent residents or citizens of the United States but have met the following conditions:

Resided in Washington State for the three (3) years immediately prior to receiving a high school diploma, and completed the full senior year at a Washington high school,
or
Completed the equivalent of a high school diploma and resided in Washington State for the three (3) years immediately before receiving the equivalent of the diploma,
and
Continuously resided in the State since earning the high school diploma or its equivalent.

Print full name _____ Date of birth (month/year) _____

Student Identification number (if available) _____

Relationship to the college or university: Applicant Current Student

Name of high school: _____

I certify that:

I will file an application to become a permanent resident of the United States as soon as I am eligible to apply. I am also willing to engage in activities designed to prepare me for citizenship, including citizenship and civics review courses.

I certify, or declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date (month, year)

To the student: This document is required only if you completed the first condition as a condition of your application to which you are applying. Check for student forms at www.wa.edu or www.wa.gov.

WASH 3009 - 00178 (1-03) (1-03) 3009-00178



GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE SIGNING SB 6523, AKA REAL HOPE ACT
INTO LAW WITH LEAP AMBASSADORS LOOKING ON

FEBRUARY 26TH, 2014

APPLYING FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID

- Must meet income requirements of the State Need Grant program
- Funds are on a “funding available” basis. Encourage students to apply as soon as possible.
- Applications are available only online at readyssetgrad.org/wasfa



COMMON QUESTION

- Do I have to be DACA to qualify for State Need Grant? **No**
- Is there an age limit to applying for State Need Grant? **No**
- Do I have to apply for State Need Grant every year? **Yes**
- I don't qualify for 1079 or for State Need Grant, how do I fund my education?

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Not all scholarships require U.S. citizenship or a social security number
- Contact your college or university's foundation office for local scholarships
- Look for these other scholarship resources
 - CollegeSuccessFoundation.org
 - theWashBoard.org
 - WAEF.org
 - CFNCW.org
 - WashingtonScholarships.org
 - ActSix.org
 - LatinoCollegeDollars.org
 - E4fc.org
 - DavisPutter.org
 - PalmerScholars.org
 - SeaMar.org
 - PrideFoundation.org

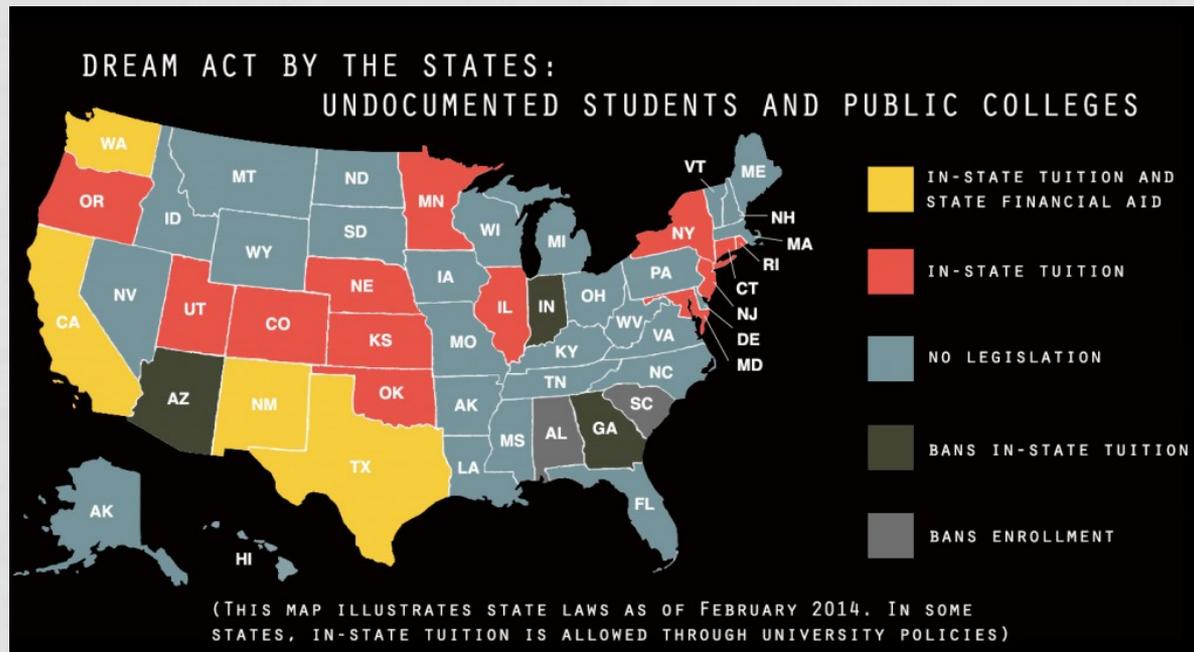


PAYING FOR COLLEGE

- Not all colleges and universities are aware of resources for undocumented students.
- Seek advocates on campus who may be able to answer other funding questions such as:
 - Can my deposit for enrollment be waived?
 - Does this college/university have scholarships that I can qualify for?
 - Is there any housing assistance?

WA RESOURCES FOR DREAMERS

- State:
 - In-state tuition
 - Some state funding (State Need Grant)

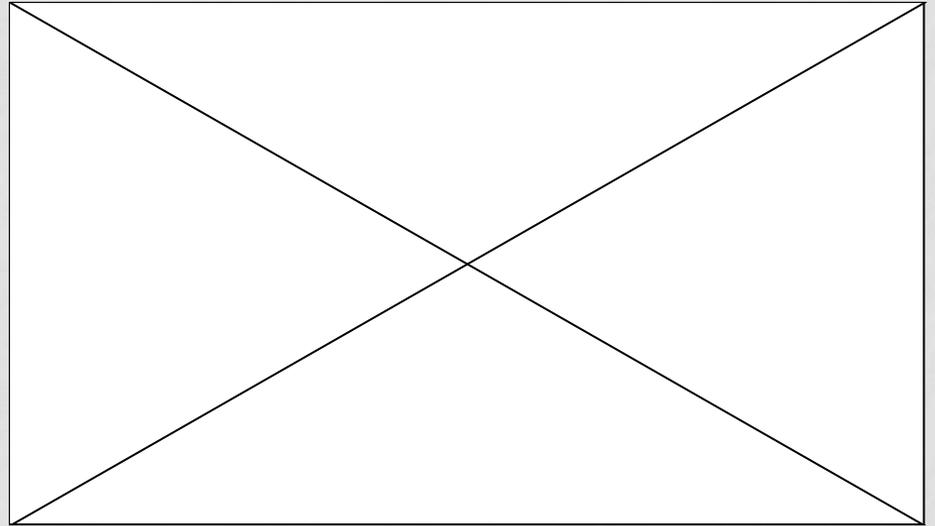


FEDERAL RESOURCES FOR DREAMERS

- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
 - Arrived in US before age of 16
 - Continuously reside in US since 6/15/07
 - Were present in US on 6/15/12
 - Entered without inspection before 6/15/12 or lawful immigration status expires on same date
 - Currently in school or graduated from high school or equivalent
 - At least 15 yrs of age at time of filing
 - Not convicted of felony, significant misdemeanor
- Federal DREAM Act (DREAMers)

WHAT IS NOT AVAILABLE TO DREAMERS

- State
 - College Bound Scholarship
- Federal
 - Financial Aid – FAFSA
 - Certain careers



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cl0lepZOEL4>

GROUP ACTIVITY

- “Illegal alien”
 - 1079 student
 - Daca/DACAmented
 - DREAMer
 - Undocumented
 - Immigrant
- List of Bias
 - Low-income
 - All undocumented are Mexican
 - Our taxes are supporting these students
 - Low achieving
 - Stealing resources

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

- Demographics of DREAMers
- Citizenship and doing it the “right way”
- Applying for Financial Aid - FAFSA
- Employment and contribution to society
- Identity and common terms
 - “Illegal alien”
 - 1079 student
 - DACA/DACAmented
 - DREAMer
 - Undocumented
 - Immigrant



BEST PRACTICES

- Language
 - Common practice
- WASFA Nights
 - Advertising
 - Confidentiality
- Partnering with Parents or Guardians
- Identifying trusted sources on college campuses
- Mixing immigration & college awareness
- Resource sharing
 - United We DREAM
 - 21 Progress
 - Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
 - College & university partners
 - Scholarship lists

CHECKLIST EXERCISE

QUESTIONS?



Image is of realhopewa.org

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