



AB 540 Student Information



SMC GUIDE FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

This quick guide is intended to assist SMC AB 540 eligible undocumented students to better understand the recently enacted Federal/State policies that have expanded opportunities for AB 540 students to continue their post-secondary educational opportunities. In addition, community resources are listed that will assist you with the paperwork that is required under the Federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

AB 540 students may benefit from the recently implemented California Dream Act (AB 130 and AB 131). You may be eligible for:

1. Privately funded Scholarships
2. Board of Governors (BOG Fee Waivers)
3. Assistance from EOP&S, CARE or Cal Works
4. State financial aid (Cal Grants and Chafee Grants) ► **see other side for Step by Step Guide for AB 540 Students**



Scholarship Resources/State Financial Aid for AB 540 Students:

In addition to qualifying for In-State tuition under AB 540, Undocumented students may also qualify for private scholarship. For further information, you can contact the following organizations:

- The California Dream Act: www.icanaffordcollege.com
- Got Papers? Got Dreams? (Bilingual AB 540 Website): ab540.org
- California Student Aid Commission (CSAC): www.csac.ca.gov
- Los Angeles Cash for College (lacashforcollege.org/resources.html)
- College Board "Repository of Resources for Undocumented Students" professionalscollegeboard.com/profdownload/Repository-Resource Undocumented-Students_2012.pdf
- MALDEF Scholarship Guide for Undocumented Students: www.maldef.org/education/public_policy/ab540/index.html
- The 2013-14 online California Dream Act Application (Calif. Dream Application) is now available at www.caldreamact.org.
- AB 540 (undocumented) students eligible under Assembly Bill (AB 540) and the recently passed AB 131 can apply for California Grants and other State Financial aid benefits using this application.
- CCCSE/OSHER: An excellent example of one of the private scholarships that AB 540 students may qualify for is the:
 - California Community College Scholarship Endowment (CCCSE/OSHER) requires fee waiver eligibility not residency. AB 540 students qualify for this award beginning with the 2013-14 award cycles.
 - Questions to Nicole Handel, California Community Colleges Scholarship Endowment Foundation for California Community Colleges. endowment@foundationccc.org • (916) 498-6725, Toll Free: (866) 325-3222, Ext.144
- University of California/California State University: Resources for Undocumented Students: UCLA Center for Community College Partnerships, 2217 Campbell Hall, Alfred Herrera, Director, aherrera@college.ucla.edu • (310) 267-4440
- UCLA Undocumented Student Program: Edward Gurrola Jr., Coordinator, Undocumented Student Program, 220 Westwood Plaza, Suite B 44, Box 951453, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1453, egurrola@sconet.ucla.edu • (310) 206-2980
- CSULB: See AB 540 On-Line CSULB Resource Guide www.csulb.edu
- CSULA/CSUDH: Erika J. Glazer Scholarship:
 - Established in 1985, the Erika J. Glazer Family Scholarship Fund will award several multi-year scholarships of up to \$7,000 per year to academically qualified students in need of financial assistance
 - These scholarships are open to Undocumented students that attend either Cal State Los Angeles or Cal State University at Dominguez Hills. The eligibility criteria are that students meet the requirements of AB 540. Website link: www.libertyhill.org

Step by Step Guide for AB 540 Students

STEP I: Complete the Application for Santa Monica College

Students interested in attending Santa Monica College should first complete the admissions application. The application can be completed at the Admissions and Records Office or online at www.smc.edu/EnrollmentDevelopment/Admissions/Pages/Web-Application.aspx

CONTACT: Admissions Office (see Sandra Franco)
franco_sandra@smc.edu

STEP II: Apply for Financial Aid/Complete the BOG (which waives your fees) and Complete the California Dream Act Application

Fill out the California Dream Act application for the Academic year 2013-2014. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) has created a single statewide application for all AB 130/131 Dream Act financial aid. You can find complete instructions and the California Dream Act application online at www.caldreamact.org

Once you complete the application you submit it online to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), or you can fill out a paper copy and mail it to CSAC.

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) processes the Dream Act application and will analyze the financial data collected to determine eligibility for Institutional financial aid under the provisions of AB 130 and AB 131. The Dream Act application is not an application for Federal financial aid.

You need to check with the appropriate SMC offices to determine their application guidelines, deadlines etc. For example, you may visit the SMC Financial aid office and apply for a Board of Governors (BOG) Enrollment fee waiver. If you are low income, you may qualify for your enrollment fees to be waived for the entire year. The BOG can also be filled out online.

CONTACT: Financial Aid (see Stacy Neal)
neal_stacy@smc.edu

STEP III: Get Connected to a Student Support Program

There are several programs and student services that can assist AB 540 students with counseling, scholarships, financial aid and other services that will allow you to succeed at this college:

- ▶ Latino Center (see Patti Del Valle)
delvalle_patricia@smc.edu • (310-434-4431)
- ▶ EOP&S (see Nati Vazquez)
vazquez_natividad@smc.edu • (310-434-4268)

STEP IV: Join a Campus Club

Santa Monica College Student Clubs who advocate for AB 540 Students

- IDEAS of SMC (Improving Dreams Equality Access and Success)
- MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan)
- ALAS (Association of Latin American Students)
- LSU (Latino Student Union)

*You can attain Club information i.e. what day and where the club meets by logging on to the SMC website or visit the office of Student Life located at the Cayton Center Room 202, located above the cafeteria, (310) 434-4250.

College/University Student Groups (AB 540 Advocacy Student Groups)

- UCLA Ideas (Undocumented Student club)
ideasla.org/resources.html
- California State University at Dominguez Hills (CSUDH):
Espiritu de Nuestro Futuro (Undocumented Student Club
www.espiritudenuestrofuturo@yahoo.com)
- California State University at Long Beach (CSULB)
Future Underrepresented Educational Leaders (FUEL),
emacias@csulb.edu
- California State University at Los Angeles
Students United to Reach Goals in Education (SURGE),
www.group_yahoo.com/group/csula_surge

STEP V: Identify Community Resources Non-Profit/Community Agencies

The following agencies provide various Immigration related services at low or no cost. In addition they provide lists of Scholarships for undocumented students.

- ▶ CARECEN (Central American Resource Center)
2845 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90005
www.carecen-la.org • (213) 385-1094
- ▶ MALDEF (Mex- American Legal Defense/Educ. Fund)
634 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90014
www.maldef.org • (213) 333-3333
- ▶ KRC (Korean Resource Center)
900 Crenshaw Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90019
www.krcla.org • (323) 937-3718
- ▶ CHIRLA (Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of LA)
2533 West 3rd st. Suite 101, Los Angeles, CA 90057
www.chirla.org • (213) 353-1789
- ▶ APALC (Asian Pacific American Legal Center)
1145 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017
www.apalc.org • (213) 977-7500
- ▶ DACA (Deferred Action) www. ImmigrationDirect.com/DREAM