

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS DESERVE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

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SCHOLARSHIPS
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WHO ARE WE?



Non-profit organization in Tucson, Arizona who equips undocumented youth in Arizona with the tools and networks to pursue higher education, navigate the workforce, and become agents of change.

GOALS AND AGENDA:

Help you understand how to actively support Undocumented students and to create nurturing environments

- Assess Your Institution
- Terminology and Policy
- Navigating Higher Education While Undocumented
- Becoming an Active Supporter for Undocumented Students



ASSESS YOUR INSTITUTION

Doing your job	Providing passive support	Being an active accomplice
• Meets professional obligations in working with Undocumented students • Understands tuition policies • Uses inclusive language • Knows how to refer Undocumented students to other informed resources	• Aware of the inequities faced by Undocumented students • Shares opportunities for them in college & professional contexts • Makes an effort to stay updated on policies and issues impacting Undocumented students	• Seeks institutional and policy change • Supports collective strategies and adopts progressive administration changes • Challenges existing barriers and creates new opportunities for Undocumented youth

UNDOCUMENTED

Undocumented refers to people who are not U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents of the United States, who do not hold a visa to live/work/go to school * Some Undocumented folx do have visas that have not yet expired, but they are visas that do not allow someone to live and work in the United States (for example a 6 month tourist visa).

*Undocumented students are NOT international students.

DACA-MENTED

A term used by some Undocumented individuals who have received Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).^{*} This term serves to identify the unique access, opportunities, and resources afforded to DACA recipients that are still inaccessible to most of the Undocumented community (e.g. drivers licenses, SSN, work permit, in-state tuition in some states).

^{*}New DACA applications are not being accepted, most Undocumented youth don't qualify for DACA anymore, when working with Undocumented youth it might be best to assume they do not have DACA

DREAMER

This word was introduced during the time that youth organizers began advocating for the DREAM Act in 2001. At the time, it was used to refer to the Undocumented young people who were leading the movement. From national to local levels, lobbying groups, advocates and the media began to select high-achieving immigrant youth to become the face of advocacy to appeal to institutions and legislators. This created the “DREAMer narrative,” which set a high bar for Undocumented youth to be seen as worthy of relief, education and/or status to live in this country.

*This term can be confusing because it means different things for different people.

MIXED STATUS FAMILIES

Refers to families of individuals with varying immigration statuses including, but not limited to, Undocumented, DACA recipient, US citizen, U Visa, Legal Permanent Resident. Over sixteen million people living in the United States are in a mixed status family (Center for American Progress, 2017).

FAFSA

UNDOCUMENTED

- Undocumented students without a SSN cannot submit the FAFSA.
- They are not eligible for federal financial aid.
- What if a scholarship is asking for financial need with FAFSA?
 - students can print out the FAFSA worksheet and do it by hand, without submitting it

DACAMENTED

- Students with DACA can use their SSN to complete FAFSA, however they are NOT eligible for federal aid.
- Should students with DACA fill out FAFSA?
 - Only if a college or scholarship asks for it as a tool to demonstrate financial need.
 - Students with DACA should select "No, I am not a US Citizen or eligible non-citizen."

FAFSA

MIXED-STATUS FAMILIES

- If citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident students have an undocumented parent/guardian, they must manually enter parental income info. Because parents/guardians do not have a SSN they cannot create a PIN number.
- They must print, sign, and mail in the signature page. You only have to send the signature page, not the whole application. The barcode on the signature page will match the student's application.
- Enter "000-00-0000" for the parent/guardian SSN. Do NOT enter an ITIN number. This will not work.

PROPOSITION 300

Policy approved on November 2006 by 71.44% of Arizona voters.

A "yes" vote shall have the effect of making **only citizens or legal residents** of the United States eligible to [1] participate in state subsidized immigrant and adult education classes, **[2] receive in-state student or county residency status for community college and university purposes, [3] receive state subsidized tuition/fee waivers and financial assistance**, [4] receive state subsidized child care assistance, [5] participate in state sponsored family literacy programs; and requiring the Board of Education, community colleges and universities, and the Department of Economic Security to report the number of ineligible persons applying for these programs and assistance.

PROPOSITION 308

Policy approved on November 2022 by 51.24% of Arizona voters.

A "yes" vote supported allowing non-citizen students to receive in-state college tuition when a student (a) attended school in Arizona for at least two years and (b) graduated from a public school, private school, or homeschool in Arizona.

Prop 308 also provides access to state aid. To be eligible for state aid, you do not need to meet the Arizona high school attendance and graduation criteria. State financial aid programs come in different forms (fee waivers, tuition waivers, scholarships, grants) and with their own set of requirements.

FULL TIME TUITION COST PER SEMESTER

INSTITUTION	IN-STATE	OUT OF STATE
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY	\$5,809	\$15,296
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERISTY	\$6,135	\$13,766
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA	\$6,202	\$17,576
PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,044	\$3,702
MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES	\$1,020	\$3,912

**HOW WILL FINACIAL AID
FOR UNDOCUMENTED
STUDENTS CHANGE AT
YOUR INSTITUTION AS A
RESULT OF PROP 308??**

NAVIGATING HIGHER-ED WHILE UNDOCUMENTED

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NAVIGATING HIGHER-ED WHILE UNDOCUMENTED

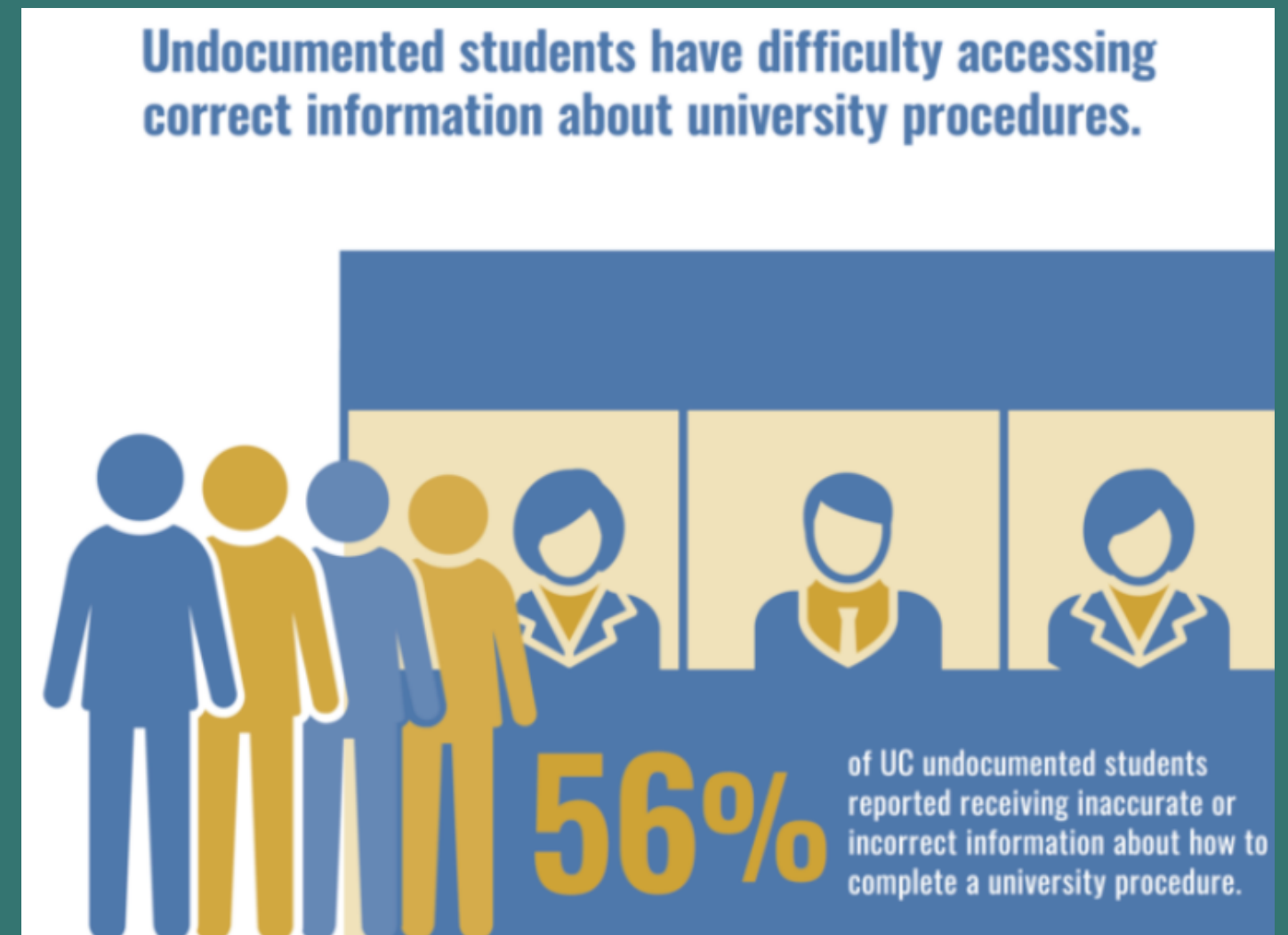
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- About 5-10% of Undocumented students pursue higher education, and far less successfully graduate with a degree
- In Arizona, 9,000 students or 2% of all enrolled students in higher education institutions are Undocumented (2018 Data)

PING PONG EFFECT

- Undocumented students are often referred from office to office in what is known as the “ping-pong effect.”
- This means that a student may reveal their status and ask for help several times and still not receive the support they need.



INSTITUTIONAL AGENTS AND DIFFUSION OF RESPONSIBILITY

- Institutional agents for Undocumented students are often one of the only resources available for Undocumented students on campus. They learn the policy landscape to support Undocumented students, and other institutional agents direct Undocumented students to them
- Diffusion of responsibility: when there is a task on hand that would be presumably completed by someone else, a person is less likely to do it themselves.
- Goal is not to have one person be the institutional agent for Undocumented students, it is for the entire institution to become one.
 - What happens if this one person leaves?

BECOME AN ACTIVE ACCOMPLICE

1. Learn Institutional Policies & Legislation in your state

- a. Its important to understand both institutional and state polices to give informed answers to Undocumented students

2. Build a network

- a. Build relationships and collaborate with other educators at your school or district who are supportive of undocumented students

3. Find & Advocate

- a. Many scholarships do not say they are open to undocumented students, ask if they are!
- b. if scholarships arent open to undocumented students advocate for them to be

4. Let them Lead

- a. Help students start a group/club to raise awareness about immigration issues
- b. Inform students about their rights
- c. Connect students to Undocumented Community Leaders and Role Models

5. Unlearn and deconstruct the DREAMer Narrative

RESOURCES

HOMEWORK: Take some time to learn more about each of these organizations focused on connecting undocumented students with scholarships and other resources

