



**SACAC**

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Southern Association  
for College Admission Counseling

# **An Educator's Guide to Post-secondary Policy for Undocumented Students**

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## Introduction of Guide

This guide is intended to serve as a resource to high school counselors who are seeking to assist undocumented students through the college application process. Students, family members, supporters, college admissions counselors, and various additional constituents may find this guide to be a helpful resource, as well. This guide provides information regarding the admissions and tuition policies in the Southeast, particularly those policies and practices which may affect undocumented students and their ability to pursue higher education. The desired purpose of the Undocumented Student Guide is to provide an accessible document in which information is gathered and, therefore, more easily disseminated.

This guide is the product of SACAC members and volunteers, in association with the SACAC Inclusion, Access, & Success Committee. Our hope is that the following information will be helpful as we continue to progress towards accessible and equitable education for all.

## Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years, subject to renewal. They are also eligible for work authorization. Deferred action is a use of prosecutorial discretion to defer removal action against an individual for a certain period of time. Deferred action does not provide lawful status.<sup>1</sup>

### Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Guidelines

Students may request DACA if:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

### Age Guidelines

Anyone requesting DACA must have been under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012. You must also be at least 15 years or older to request DACA, unless you are currently in removal proceedings or have a final removal or voluntary departure order, as summarized in the table below:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

## **Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act)**

Bipartisan Legislation that addresses the issue of young people who grew up in the United States and have graduated from our high schools, but whose future is circumscribed by our current immigration laws. Under current law, these young people generally derive their immigration status solely from their parents, and if their parents are undocumented or in immigration limbo, most have no mechanism to obtain legal residency, even if they have lived most of their lives in the U.S. The DREAM Act would provide such a mechanism for those who are able to meet certain conditions.<sup>2</sup>

The latest version of the DREAM Act, also known as the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, was introduced on May 11, 2011, in the Senate (S. 952) by Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) and 32 fellow senators, and in the House of Representatives (H.R. 1842) by Reps. Howard Berman (D-CA), Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), and Lucille Roybal-Allard.

**The DREAM Act would enact two major changes in current law:**

- The DREAM Act would permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S. to apply for temporary legal status and to eventually obtain permanent legal status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military; and
- The DREAM Act would eliminate a federal provision that penalizes states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status.

If enacted, the DREAM Act would have a life-changing impact on the students who qualify, dramatically increasing their average future earnings—and consequently the amount of taxes they would pay—while significantly reducing criminal justice and social services costs to taxpayers.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://nilc.org/dreamsummary.html>

# Alabama

## Public Colleges and Universities

**Admissions Policy for Public Colleges and Universities:** In 2008 HB 56 banned undocumented students from enrolling in any public college or university and the Alabama State Board of Education passed a resolution banning undocumented students from enrolling in community colleges. Since the passage of DACA, its recipients are eligible to enroll at the following institutions:<sup>3</sup>

- University of Alabama in Huntsville, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa
- University of Troy in Dothan and Troy
- University of Montevallo
- Auburn University at Auburn and Montgomery
- Community Colleges<sup>4</sup>

**Tuition Policy for Public Colleges and Universities:** The state of Alabama bars undocumented students from receiving any public postsecondary education benefits, including in-state tuition and financial aid. Alabama is also one of the two states that explicitly prohibit undocumented students from enrolling at any public postsecondary institution. <sup>5</sup>

## Private College and Universities

**Admissions and Tuition Policies for Alabama Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (AAICU):** There is no policy that governs all private colleges and universities. Each campus sets their own policies. For more information, find a list of all AAICU institutions [here](#).

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Alabama Appleseed Center for Law & Justice](#): The mission of Alabama Appleseed is to work for systemic policy reforms that achieves justice and fairness for low-income and unrepresented and other vulnerable populations that usually have little, or no, voice in developing or changing policies that impact their lives.
2. [Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice](#): The Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice is a grassroots, statewide network of individuals and organizations that works to advance and defend the rights of immigrants in Alabama. Our coalition consists of seven non-profit organizations, 15 grassroots immigrant community organizations, and hundreds of individual members.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/alabama-policy>

<sup>4</sup> <http://unitedwedream.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/DEEPTuitionEquityMapMay2014merged.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/alabama-policy>

3. [Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama:](#) ¡HICA! is dedicated to the social, civic and economic integration of Hispanic families in Alabama.
4. [Immigrant Youth Leadership Initiative of Alabama:](#) Since its foundation as Alabama Dreamers for the Future in Birmingham, Alabama on June 2011 as a direct response to anti-immigrant legislation, the Immigrant Youth Leadership Initiative of Alabama is an independent group composed of undocumented youth and allies who are actively working toward healthy conversation on immigration, communication between students and educators, and the direct empowerment of the undocumented community in Alabama.
5. [North Alabama Hispanic Coalition for Equal Rights \(NAHCER\):](#) Community organization that advocates for the rights of all immigrants in the state of Alabama. NAHCER engages in advocacy and empowers the base community by organizing immigrant communities in the Northern part of Alabama.

## Arkansas

## **Public Colleges and Universities**

**Admission Policy for Public Colleges and Universities:** The Arkansas Department of Higher Education does not have policies related to undocumented students attending Arkansas colleges and universities. It is up to the individual institution to determine if they will accept/enroll undocumented students.<sup>6</sup>

**Tuition Policy for Public College and Universities:** Arkansas does not extend in-state tuition eligibility to undocumented students.<sup>7</sup>

## **Private Universities and Colleges**

**Admission and Tuition Policies for Arkansas' Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (AICU):** For a complete list of AICU institutions and more information regarding admission and tuition policies [click here](#).

## **State Resources for Undocumented Students**

1. [Arkansas United Community Coalition](#): An immigrants' rights nonprofit organization that strives to bring together Arkansas-based organizations and individuals, across sectors, with the mission to promote meaningful immigrant integration at the local and state levels, supporting immigrants and other multicultural communities to be agents of positive change in Arkansas.
2. [Arkansas Coalition for Dream](#): (ARC4D). A "statewide immigrant youth-led organization working to achieve equal access to higher education in Arkansas."
3. [Arkansas Friendship Coalition](#): Encourages "a reasonable and respectful approach to the immigration debate in Arkansas" and engages in advocacy.
4. [Catholic Charities Immigration Services--Springdale](#): Provides "low-cost immigration counseling and support to families and individuals who are eligible for immigration benefits and cannot afford private assistance." Works for solidarity in our community by welcoming the stranger in the spirit of the Gospel. Assists and advocates for immigrants to attain family unity, economic independence and social integration. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) specialist assists immigrants in safely leaving dangerous situations and obtaining immigration status that supports them in making decisions for their own future.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.adhe.edu/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/arkansas-policy>



5. [Hispanic Women's Organization](#): Strives to enhance participation by Hispanics in the community, thus opening channels for better understanding across cultures and bringing the diverse Northwest Arkansas community together, to advance educational opportunities for Hispanic women and their families, and to become active participants in the community.
6. [Immigration Law Clinic](#): Provides free legal services to low-income individuals with immigration-related legal issues.
7. [Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center](#): Improves conditions of employment for low-wage workers in northwest Arkansas by educating, organizing, and mobilizing them, and calling on people of faith and the wider region to publicly support the workers' efforts.

## Public Universities and Colleges

**Admission Policy for State University System of Florida:** According to the State University System of Florida regulations, First-time-in-college undocumented students must have earned a standard high school diploma from a Florida public or regionally accredited high school, or its equivalent, to be considered for admission to a state university. <sup>8</sup>

**Tuition Policy for State University System of Florida:** On June 9, 2014, Governor Rick Scott signed HB 851 into law. The bill grants undocumented students out-of-state fee waivers if they meet the following criteria:

- Attended a Florida secondary school for 3 consecutive years immediately before graduating from a Florida high school
- Applied for enrollment in an institution of higher education within 24 months after high school graduation
- Submitted an official Florida high school transcript as evidence of attendance and graduation

A student granted an out-of-state fee waiver is still considered a non-resident student, is not eligible for financial aid, and cannot be reported as a resident for tuition purposes. In addition, this bill also states that a dependent child who is a U.S. citizen may not be denied classification as a resident for tuition purposes based solely upon the immigration status of his/her parent. <sup>9</sup>

## Private Universities and Colleges

**Admission and Tuition Policies for Private Colleges and Universities of Florida (PCUF):** For complete list of PCUF institutions and more information regarding admission and tuition policies, [click here](#).

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Florida Immigrant Coalition](#): The Florida Immigrant Coalition is a statewide alliance of more than 62 member organizations, including farmworkers, students, service providers, grassroots organizations and legal advocates, who come together for the fair treatment of all people, including immigrants.
2. [Hope CommUnity Center](#): Hope CommUnity Center is a service learning community dedicated to the empowerment of Central Florida's immigrant and working poor communities through Education, Advocacy and Spiritual Growth. Hope CommUnity Center exist to serve and cultivate self-determined communities through personal, social and communal transformation.

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<sup>8</sup>[http://www.flbog.edu/documents\\_regulations/regulations/6%20002%20FTIC%20Admissions%20\\_FINAL.p  
df](http://www.flbog.edu/documents_regulations/regulations/6%20002%20FTIC%20Admissions%20_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/florida-policy>

3. [Hope Community Center & Seminole State College Scholarship](#): Hope Community Center has a long standing relationship with Seminole State College. In 2012, Seminole State College began supporting undocumented students by covering tuition costs for a number of DACA students from Hope Community Center.
4. [Students Working for Equal Rights \(S.W.E.R.\)](#): Students Working for Equal Rights (S.W.E.R.) is an organization founded by undocumented immigrant youth for the liberation of the oppressed. Works to create possibilities and raise awareness in our communities about social justice and equal access to education, satisfying the needs of all individuals with a passion to further their knowledge, by means of grassroots organizing, political education, alliance building, nonviolent direct action and civic engagement.
5. [The Dream.US Scholarship](#): TheDream.US is a new multimillion dollar National Scholarship Fund for DREAMers, created to help immigrant youth who've received DACA achieve their American Dream through the completion of a college education. Applicants are required to attend a partner college. Partner colleges in Florida are Florida International University, Miami Dade College, Palm Beach State College, Valencia College, and University of Central Florida.
6. [United We Dream, Tampa Bay](#): Youth led immigrant rights organization in Tampa Bay, FL. Through education, service, & legislative advocacy, we are able to help our immigrant community.

## Georgia

## Public Universities and Colleges

**Admission Policy for the University System of Georgia:** In October of 2010 the Board of Regents banned undocumented students from enrolling in the state's top five research public universities. Including the University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, the Medical College of Georgia and Georgia College and State University. Board of Regents policy 4.1.6 went into effect in the fall of 2012. Undocumented students are eligible to attend all other colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia.<sup>10</sup>

**Tuition Policy for the University System of Georgia:** Undocumented students are ineligible for in-state tuition at all University System of Georgia institutions. Board of Regents policy 4.3.4 requires that all students who enroll at a USG institution provide proof of lawful presence.<sup>11</sup>

## Private Colleges and Universities

**Admission and Tuition Policy for Georgia Independent College Association (GICA):** GICA schools vary, whether a student is documented does not tend to weigh in on an admission decision. If a student does not complete FAFSA or state aid form, then the institution does not pursue Federal or State aid programs for the student. The institution may select to award institutional grant aid. There is no in-state or out-of-state variance for tuition. For more information regarding Georgia Independent College Association, click [here](#).<sup>12</sup>

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Freedom at Emory University:](#) Freedom at Emory University is a coalition of students, faculty, and student organizations advocating for the educational rights of undocumented youth.
2. [Freedom University:](#) Freedom University is a modern-day freedom school based in Atlanta. We provide rigorous college-level classes, scholarship assistance, and leadership development for undocumented students in Georgia.
3. [Georgia Undocumented Youth Alliance:](#) Georgia Undocumented Youth Alliance (GUYA) is an Undocumented Youth-led organization that seeks dignity and justice for the Immigrant Community in the state of Georgia.

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<sup>10</sup>[http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C327/#p4.1.6\\_admission\\_of\\_persons\\_not\\_lawfully\\_present\\_in\\_the\\_united\\_states](http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C327/#p4.1.6_admission_of_persons_not_lawfully_present_in_the_united_states)

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C329/#p4.3.4\\_verification\\_of\\_lawful\\_presence](http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C329/#p4.3.4_verification_of_lawful_presence)

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.georgiacolleges.org/>

4. [Undocumented Student Alliance at the University of Georgia](#): U.S.A at UGA engages in service and advocacy to promote equality and inclusiveness within our community despite a person's legal status.

**Louisiana**

## **Public Universities and Colleges**

**Admission Policy the Louisiana Board of Regents:** The Louisiana Board of Regents represents the public higher education community before all branches of government. The public higher education systems include: The University of Louisiana System, Louisiana State University System, Southern University System and Louisiana Community and Technical College System. Each system outlines specific admissions policies, click [here](#) for more information.

**Tuition Policy for the University of Louisiana System:** The state of Louisiana does not provide in-state tuition for undocumented students. The Louisiana legislature has yet to introduce a bill that would allow undocumented students to receive in-state tuition. <sup>13</sup>

## **Private Colleges and Universities**

**Admission and Tuition Policy for Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU):** For a complete list of LAICU institutions and more information regarding admission and tuition policies [click here](#).

## **State Resources for Undocumented Students**

*Coming Soon*

# Mississippi

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<sup>13</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/louisiana-policy>

## Public Universities and Colleges

**Admission Policy for the University System of Mississippi:** Mississippi does not have any known tuition equity law or policy. Undocumented or DACA grantees may be able to enroll in colleges/universities; however, they may have to pay out of state or an international student tuition rate/fee. Information is currently being collected about whether DACA grantees are eligible for in-state tuition.

**Tuition Policy for the University System of Mississippi:** Mississippi does not provide in-state tuition to undocumented students. DACA residents can qualify for in-state tuition at community colleges.<sup>14</sup>

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance:](#) The Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA) is a membership-based alliance which seeks to expand the rights and opportunities of vulnerable immigrants in Mississippi-and by example and extension inform the national policy debate over immigration reform. MIRA works to support immigrants in the exercise of their rights through providing legal services, organizing, advocacy and public education.
2. [Get2College Centers:](#) Get2College is Mississippi's recognized expert resource for college admission and financial aid advice. Offering students and their families a comprehensive program to help plan, prepare, and pay for college. Get2College is a program of the nonprofit Education Services Foundation. Get2College provides free counseling services in our Get2College Centers in Jackson, Ocean Springs, and Southaven and support high school counselors throughout the state in helping students get to college and be successful there.
3. [American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi:](#) The ACLU of Mississippi is dedicated to promoting, defending, and extending civil liberties to all Mississippians with emphasis on issues related to criminal justice reform, equality and freedom of speech and expression.

## North Carolina

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<sup>14</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/mississippi-policy>

## Public Universities and Colleges

**Admission Policy for the University of North Carolina System:** As of 2007, according to Policy 700.1.4[G] Undocumented students are eligible for admission to all UNC System universities given that they have graduated from high school in the us and will be considered as out-of-state students for the purpose of calculating the 18-percent cap on out-of-state students admitted into UNC System (Policy 700.1.3):<sup>15</sup>

**Tuition Policy for the UNC System:** Undocumented students must be charged out-of-state tuition rates and are ineligible for federal and state financial aid (Policy 700.1.4[G])<sup>16</sup>

**Admission Policy for the NC Community College System:** As of 2009, undocumented students who have graduated from high school in North Carolina are permitted to enroll in NC Community Colleges.<sup>17</sup>

## Tuition Policy for the NC Community College System

Students who have been awarded DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) are awarded in-state tuition if an employer agrees to pay their tuition under state law General Statute 115D-39(a) that allows employers to sponsor their employees wishing to attend a community college. All other undocumented students, and DACA students who do not have an employee sponsor, must pay out-of-state tuition rates.<sup>18,19</sup>

## Admission and Tuition Policy for Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU)

Per Rebecca Leggett, Director of Programs and Research for NCICU, each campus determines its own policy for admission and tuition.

The following NCICU institutions award merit-based aid to undocumented students:

- Barton College
- Brevard College
- Campbell University
- Davidson College (also provides need-based aid)
- Gardner-Webb University
- Guilford College
- High Point University
- Louisburg College
- Meredith College

(<http://www.meredith.edu/financial-assistance/undocumented-students>)

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<sup>15</sup> <http://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?pg=vs&id=451&added=1>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?pg=vs&id=451&added=1>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sbcccocode/1d-sbccc-4002-admission-colleges>

<sup>18</sup> <http://uncw.edu/centrohispano/documents/DACA-and-CC-Tuition-Exceptions-FINAL-12SEP13.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/sbcccocode/1d-sbccc-4002-admission-colleges>



- Montreat University
- NC Wesleyan College
- Wake Forest- apply before Dec. 1; ineligible for federal or state aid so they do **not** meet 100% of need for undocumented students
- Warren Wilson
- Wingate University

### **State Resources for Undocumented Students**

1. [¡Adelante!](#): Adelante focuses on education issues affecting Latino and migrant students and their families in North Carolina. The coalition is a collaboration among nonprofit organizations that focus on advocacy and public policy, community organizing, and grassroots support. We are working to ensure that North Carolina has a high-quality K-12 and post-secondary public education system where students will succeed and excel without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, socioeconomic or immigration status.
2. [Code2Hire](#): Code2Hire helps talented, tech-hungry high school graduates break into the fields of web design and development without a college degree! Online training, in-person seminars and hands-on mentoring prepare Code2Hire graduates for exciting jobs at Red Ventures, a fast-growing marketing and technology company in the Charlotte area. Apply now to Code2Hire and jump-start your career in technology!
3. [Cooperativa Latino Credit Union](#): Our primary mission is to integrate newcomers and the underserved into the U.S. financial system, providing economic opportunity for all. CLCU also offers loans, including those that undocumented immigrants can apply for to cover the cost of their DACA application.
4. [Elon University Odyssey Scholars Program](#): Formerly known as the Watson & Odyssey Scholars Program, the Odyssey Scholars Program is a highly selective merit-based program consisting of talented individuals who are academically strong, civically engaged, action-oriented leaders in their communities, who will benefit from an Elon education and demonstrate financial need. Non-citizens are eligible to apply. Located at Elon University in Elon, North Carolina.
5. [El Pueblo, Inc.](#): El Pueblo's mission is for Latinos to achieve positive social change by building consciousness, capacity, and community action.
6. [Golden Door Scholars](#): Golden Door Scholars provides scholarships for DACA students and scholarships for undocumented students. Students may be high school seniors or recent graduates. Preference will be given to high school graduates from states that require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition.

7. [Latin American Coalition](#): La Coalición is a community of Latin Americans, immigrants and allies that promotes full and equal participation of all people in the civic, economic and cultural life of North Carolina through education, celebration and advocacy.
8. [Scholars' Latino Initiative](#): SLI is dedicated to fostering the next generation of Latino leaders across North Carolina by creating pathways to educational, professional, and civic engagement opportunities.

## South Carolina

## Public Colleges and Universities

**Admission Policy for the South Carolina Commissions on Higher Education:** In 2008 the passage of HB 4400 banned undocumented students from enrolling in all 2-year and 4-year institutions. In 2013 the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education stated that all South Carolina postsecondary institutions must admit DACA recipients based on the Federal determination of lawful presence.<sup>20,21</sup>

**Tuition Policies for Public Colleges/Universities:** HB4400 prohibits undocumented students from receiving resident tuition status, scholarships, grants, financial aid, and other public higher education financial benefits.<sup>22</sup>

## Private Colleges and Universities

**Admission and Tuition Policies for South Carolina’s Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU)** Per Mike LeFever, President & CEO of SCICU- “Each private non-profit school does set its own policies for admissions and tuition for undocumented students. The only exception is that undocumented students are not eligible for state financial aid whether they attend a private or public college or university. The Commission on Higher Education establishes residency and citizenship policies pertaining to in-state tuition and state financial aid.”

The following SCICU institutions award merit-based aid to undocumented students:

- Coker College- very strict admissions policies; please follow up with Undergraduate Admissions
- Converse College
- Furman University
- Limestone College
- North Greenville University
- Presbyterian College
- Southern Wesleyan University

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Golden Door Scholars](#): Golden Door Scholars provides scholarships for DACA students and scholarships for undocumented students. Students may be high school seniors or recent graduates. Preference will be given to high school graduates from states that require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition.

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<sup>20</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/south-carolina-policy>

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<http://www.aclusouthcarolina.org/news/2013/02/20/aclu-sc-challenges-state-institutions-comply-federal-guidanc>

<sup>22</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/south-carolina-policy>

2. [South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center](#): South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center is a forceful and respected advocate for low-income South Carolinians on issues such as housing, education, hunger, public benefits, domestic violence, immigration, healthcare and consumer issues. SC Appleseed is dedicated to effecting systemic change wherever we can do the most good - in and through the courthouse, legislature, administrative agencies, community and the media. We grow our impact by helping others do the same through education, training and co-counseling.

## Tennessee

### Public Colleges and Universities

## Admission Policy for Tennessee Higher Education Commission:

- **University of Tennessee System**
  - Schools “do not knowingly accept” undocumented students,
  - The University of Tennessee System has three primary campuses – in Knoxville, Martin and Chattanooga – as well as the University of Tennessee Space Institute in Tullahoma and the University of Tennessee Health and Science Center in Memphis.<sup>23</sup>
- **Tennessee Board of Regents**
  - Schools will accept undocumented students (As Out-of-State Applicants)
  - System has six universities, 13 community colleges and 27 technology centers. The universities are Austin Peay, Middle Tennessee State, East Tennessee State, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech and the University of Memphis.<sup>24</sup>

**Tuition Policy for Tennessee Higher Education Commission:** The state of Tennessee has not passed a law concerning undocumented students access to higher education or in-state tuition eligibility. Public colleges and universities therefore vary in their policies regarding acceptance of undocumented students.<sup>25</sup>

**Admission and Tuition Policy for Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association (TICUA):** Each institution determines their admission and tuition policies for undocumented students. For a complete list of TICUA institutions, [click here](#).

## State Resources for Undocumented Students

1. [Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee and rights Coalition](#); The Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) is a statewide, immigrant and refugee-led collaboration whose mission is to empower immigrants and refugees throughout Tennessee to develop a unified voice, defend their rights, and create an atmosphere in which they are recognized as positive contributors to the state.
2. [The Study Foundation](#): The Study Foundation seeks to draw on the collective knowledge of undocumented students and members of the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition’s statewide network, compiling ideas and resources from diverse groups throughout the state.
3. [Golden Door Scholars](#): Golden Door Scholars provides scholarships for DACA students and scholarships for undocumented students. Students may be high school seniors or

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<sup>23</sup><http://www.tennessean.com/story/news/education/2014/03/10/tennessee-universities-differ-on-accepting-undocumented-students/6272945/>

<sup>24</sup><http://www.tennessean.com/story/news/education/2014/03/10/tennessee-universities-differ-on-accepting-undocumented-students/6272945/>

<sup>25</sup> <http://uleadnet.org/map/tennessee-policy>

recent graduates. Preference will be given to high school graduates from states that require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition.

## **Scholarships for Undocumented Students**

1. [Que Lleva Café- sponsored by Chicano Organizing & Research in Education](#)

Deadline: February  
Amount: \$500

2. [Esperanza Fund](#)  
Deadline: April 1  
Amount: \$5,000 (for 2 years of study at the community college)
3. [Martin Luther King, Jr. Foundation](#)  
Deadline: March  
Amount: \$4,000 (for 2 years)
4. [The Dream.US](#)  
Deadline: October  
Amount: up to \$12,000 toward Associates degree
5. [Los Hermanos de Stanford](#)  
Deadline: May 5th  
Amount: \$1,000 (may be attending either 2- or 4-year college)
6. [Herbert Lehman Education Fund Scholarship](#)  
Deadline: March 31 of every year  
Amount: \$2,000 (renewable)
7. [Golden Door Scholars](#)  
Deadline: Fall  
Amount: Varies
8. [Hispanic Scholarship Fund](#)  
They offer various scholarship programs that are now available for students with DACA  
Deadlines: Varies  
Amount: Varies
9. [The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Scholarship \(CHCI\)](#)  
Deadline: April 16<sup>th</sup>  
Amount: \$1,000 for associate's degree; \$2,500 for undergraduate degree
10. [Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund](#)  
Deadline: January 15<sup>th</sup>  
Amount: \$500

### **Additional Resources**

1. [DACA Toolkit for Educators- Educators for Fair Consideration](#)

2. [USCIS DACA Toolkit: Resources for Community Partners](#)
3. [Educators for Fair Consideration Scholarship List](#)
4. [Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund \(MALDEF\)](#)
5. [Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard Student Resource Guide for Paying for College](#)
6. [Harvard University Act on a Dream Scholarship list:](#)
7. [Documenting the Pathway to College \(A Handbook for Undocumented HS Students\)](#)
8. [College Greenlight's Annual List of Scholarships for Undocumented Students](#)