From Dream to Plan to Action: An update on supporting the college aspirations of undocumented students

SCHOLARSHIPS a-Z

College Knowledge for Counselors Tucson, AZ November 9, 2012
www.scholarshipsaz.org
Scholarships a–z

Outline

• By the Numbers
• ISRT | DACA | DREAM
• Our collective story
• Action steps for educators
• Q & A
• Evaluations
UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT PIPELINE

since Plyler v. Doe (June 15, 1982)

1.7 Million Total Undocumented Youth

80,000 become 18 years of age each year

65,000 graduate from HS each year

7,000-13,000 enroll in college each year

Source: Chuan-Ru Chen, A., Doctoral Candidate, UCLA Department of Education
By the Numbers

• In high school: (Urban Institute, 2010)
  – 1/5 or 1/6 of undocumented students dropout of high school annually
  – 65,000 graduate from high school each year (5-10% go to college)

• In college: (Assoc of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers)
  – 53.6 % of responding schools (613 of 2,000 member institutions) knowingly admit undocumented immigrant students
By the Numbers

• If the DREAM Act passes:
  – 38% of 2.1 mill DREAM Act eligible youth would be eligible to legalize their status (Migration Policy Institute, 2010)

• 39% of undocumented children live below the federal poverty level (compared to 17 percent of native-born children)
  – Average income of an undocumented immigrant’s family is 40% lower than that of either native-born families (Passel, 2005)
DREAM Act: Reality

General Info
• 2001 - 2011 (different versions)
• Pathway to legalization
  – Arrived in U.S. under 16
  – Up to 35 years old?
  – Lived in the U.S. for 5 years
  – GED or high school diploma

Factors to consider
• Age
• High dropout rates
• Poverty levels
• Cost of college
• Parents/Working

38% achieve lawful permanent status (825,000)
State Legislative Efforts
(In-state Residency Tuition Policies)

- *California (2001)
- *Utah (2002)
- Oklahoma (2003), rescinded (2008)
- Kansas (2004)
- Nebraska (2006)
- New Mexico (2005)
- Maryland (2011)
- Connecticut (2011)
- Rhode Island (2011)
- Kentucky

Prohibits ISRT
- Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina
Top 10 States of Residence for Immigrant Youth Potentially Eligible for Deferred Action Action

California has 350,000 potentially eligible youth – the highest number in any state by far.

* = state that provides in-state tuition for undocumented immigrant youth

Number of Potential Beneficiaries

- < 20k
- 20 – 49k
- 50 – 79k
- 80 – 109k
- 110 – 139k
- 140 – 170k
- > 170k

Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) press June 25, 2012 press release; map courtesy of the Four Freedoms Fund
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

According to DHS, individuals who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply:

• Is under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
• Came to the US before reaching his/her 16th birthday;
• Have continuously resided in the US since June 15, 2007
• Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012 or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

• Was physically present in the US on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making the request for consideration of DACA with USCIS
• Have not been convicted of a felony offense, a “significant misdemeanor, 3 or more separate misdemeanor offenses” or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety
What does DACA do?

• Safe guards against deportation
• Gives DREAMer eligibility to apply for a work permit
• Stops the clock on accruing unlawful status for 3 to 10 year bans
• Does NOT provide a pathway to legal status or citizenship
• Does NOT automatically make a DREAMer eligible for a driver’s license or in-state tuition
## DACA Eligible Youth

Table 3. Enrollment and Educational Attainment of Prospective Beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>Number Potential Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,760,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently enrolled in K-12</td>
<td>800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate/GED (terminal degree)*</td>
<td>390,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has a college degree</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled in college (16-24)*</td>
<td>140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No high school degree, not enrolled</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: CPS data do not provide information on enrollment status of adults older than 24 or younger than 16. Therefore, adults ages 25-30 who are enrolled in college are shown in the “high school graduate/GED (terminal degree)” group. Similarly, even though a small number of youth under 16 could be out of school, they appear in the “Currently enrolled in K-12.”

*Source: MPI analysis of 2006-08 and 2008-10 CPS.*
## ScholarshipsA-Z, DEEP & You

### Dream Educational Empowerment Program

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Educate</th>
<th>Connect</th>
<th>Empower</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Remove systemic barriers</td>
<td>• Build networks of support</td>
<td>• Improve students’ self-determination</td>
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<td>• Focus on opportunity (not limitation)</td>
<td>• Collaborate between K-16, orgs, businesses</td>
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<td>• Create educational pathways for youth</td>
<td>• Training, webinars, workshops</td>
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Remove systemic barriers, focus on opportunity (not limitation), create educational pathways for youth, train educators, build networks of support, collaborate between K-16, orgs, businesses, training, webinars, workshops, improve students’ self-determination, shift in consciousness, remove shadow of “illegality”.

![Images of graduates and UWD DEEP logo](image-url)
United We Dream

• Resources. Action. Organizing.
• Programs:
  – DEEP, QUIP, Right 2 Dream, END
• 8 regions
• 5,000 immigrant youth leaders
• 40 affiliates
• 28 states
• Build **self-advocacy** skills needed for higher education
• Build **networks of support** around students
• Improve **access** to college & resources
• Provide **hope** to students & families
• Develop educator **allies**

**Our Collective Story**
• **850+** students enrolled in college and/or found scholarships because of our advising

• **600+** parents & educators utilize our resources

• Students received **$44,000** in scholarships in 2012

• **Committees**: Educators, Parents, Students, Community
• High school outreach
• Scholarship research & leadership training
• GED Guide
• Mentor/Mentee
• Transfer guide (coming soon)
• Changing scholarships
• Creating scholarships
Ally Network Collective Goals:
1) Educational Equality
2) Legislative Reform
3) Raise Consciousness & Awareness
4) Develop Resources

Role of Community Partners
Leverage community resources
Not under institutional guidelines
Provide direct services and advising

Role of Practitioner Allies
Leverage their social and professional roles to advocate educational resources for undocumented students

Role of Undocumented Students
Hold institutions accountable
Counter narratives & student representation
Student activism and organizing

Source: Chuan-Ru Chen, A., Doctoral Candidate, UCLA
Department of Education
LEGALITY TO “ILLEGALITY”

• K-12 Inclusive -> Postsecondary Exclusive (Gonzalez, forthcoming)

• Socialized into Undocumented Identity

• Role of Institution
  – How can we minimize social reproduction of “illegality”?
  – How can we empower students during transitional period?

Source: Chuan-Ru Chen, A., Doctoral Candidate, UCLA Department of Education
What educators can do?

What’s on your door? In your office? On your face?
Across the U.S.

- DREAM Summer
- Queer DREAM Summer
- National Dream University
- Freedom University
- Educators 4 Fair Consideration
Discussion & Questions

Action Plan:
Start
Stop
Continue
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