

Undocu-Ally Training

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE



DREAMERS
WELCOME



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Borderless Scholars

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OVERVIEW – BECOMING AN UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT ALLY

Build an **Awareness** of the realities that undocumented students face



Increase and maintain your **Knowledge** of the resources available to students



Enhance your **Skills** regarding how to support our undocumented students



Become an effective **Advocate** for our undocumented students

Did You Know?

- ❖ 98,000 undocumented students graduate from United States high schools every year
- ❖ 40% of those students live in California
- ❖ NOT All Undocumented Immigrants are Latinx/Chicanx

Do You Know?

#1 Country as of 2017?

- India: 126,000
- Mexico: 124,000
- China: 121,000
- Cuba: 41,000

Live Poll Survey

Instructions:

1. Text “MESAEOPS819” to “22333”
2. Read the question and text your answer (A,B,C,D, or E)

Knowing SOME Of The Terms:

- **The DREAM Act** - (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act) was a bill in Congress that would have granted legal status to certain undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children and went to school here.
- **Undocumented Person** - A person from a country outside of the United States who is in the United States without official documentation.
- **DREAMers** - The young people impacted in any way by the DREAM Act and DACA.
- **Mixed Status Families** - Families that include both documented and undocumented members.

Knowing SOME Of The Terms (Continue...)

DACA



DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)

- ❖ Created on June 15, 2012
- ❖ As a result from The DREAM Act
- ❖ Deferred action for certain undocumented young people (up to age 31) who came to the United States as children
 - ❖ Temporary Protection from deportation
 - ❖ Social Security Number
 - ❖ Employment authorization card
 - ❖ Driver's license eligibility
- ❖ By September 30, 2015, nearly 700,000 undocumented youth had obtained DACA status
- ❖ Currently accepting renewals only.



Knowing SOME Of The Terms (Continue...)

AB 540

ASSEMBLY BILL 540 (AB 540)

- ❑ **AB 540** – A California law passed in 2001, which allows non-resident students who meet certain qualifications to pay in-state tuition.
- ❑ These students may include: undocumented students, students who are US citizens but who are not CA residents, and dependent students whose parents are not CA residents.
- ❑ ***Not all undocumented students are AB 540 students.***



AB 540 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Time and coursework requirements

Attendance for three full-time years or the equivalent at any combination of the following:

- California high school, Elementary school, and/or Secondary school
- California adult school (including non-credit courses offered by a California community college)
- California community college (maximum of two years of credit courses can count toward this requirement)

2. Registered or enrolled at a California Community College.

3. File an [AB-540 Affidavit \(California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request form\)](#) stating you have filed (or will file when eligible to do so) for legal immigration status.

4. Must not hold a valid non-immigrant visa (F, J, H, L, A E, etc.)

AB540.com more fully explains the bill and answers questions students may have.

Knowing SOME Of The Terms (Continue...)

California Dream Act Application

THE CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT

- In 2011- AB 130 and AB 131 passed.
- This application is **unrelated** to the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.
- **Allows California colleges and universities to award** undocumented students (AB 540), certain institutional scholarships & state-based financial aid.
- **Institutional scholarships** - funded through private donors, alumni contributions, and individual departmental efforts.
- **State-based financial aid** - Such as Cal Grant, State University Grants, and California Promise Grant.



DACA / AB-540 / CA Dream Act Application

DACA

- ☐ Benefits (Protection from Deportation, Employment Authorization, Drivers License)
- ☐ Currently only accepting renewals

AB 540

- ☐ Non-resident tuition waiver
- ☐ Fill out AB540 Affidavit
- ☐ It is needed to be eligible for the California Dream Act application

CA Dream Act Application

- ☐ School purposes only
- ☐ Cal Grant eligibility
- ☐ UC Grants, State University Grants
- ☐ California Community College (CCC) California Promise Grant

***Application deadline for all Dreamer Cal Grants is March 2nd.

DACA / AB-540 / Dream Act Application



AB 540

- ☐ Non-resident tuition waiver
- ☐ Fill out AB540 Affidavit
- ☐ It is needed to be eligible for the California Dream Act application

CA Dream Act Application

- ☐ School purposes only
- ☐ Cal Grant eligibility
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Mental Health



- └ “Data from the 2016 U.S. National Health Interview showed that 40 percent of those eligible for DACA reported improved mental health after its inception — but that progress is now in danger considering DACA’s precarious status.” (America’s Voice, 2019)
- ❖ “The young man walked into the California urgent care clinic with a severe "*ataque de nervios*" — a cultural term for a psychological syndrome similar to a nervous breakdown or a panic attack. He was 18 years old, a Mexican national who'd been brought to the U.S. by his parents at age 2, and had lived without legal status all his life.” (Cecilia Balli, Houston Chronicle, 08/2017).
- └ “Garcini, who holds a doctorate in clinical psychology and a master of public health, led a research team that surveyed nearly 260 undocumented immigrant adults and found 63 percent of those aged 18 to 25 showed signs of psychological distress — the highest percentage of any age group.” (Cecilia Balli, Houston Chronicle, 08/2017).

MENTAL WELL-BEING AMONGST DREAMERS

Fear

Deportation
Family
Separation

Anxiety

Uncertain
Future
Pressure
from family

Depression

Isolation

Shame

Keeping
Secrets
Loss of self
worth



RESOURCES AT SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

HOW CAN WE HELP?

EOPS

[EOPS](#)
[CARE](#)
[NextUP](#)
[FAST Scholars](#)

▶ [Borderless Scholars](#)
[DACA](#)
[AB540](#)
[Project Restart](#)
[Contact Us](#)

CONTACT

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Phone: 619-388-2706

Fax: 619-388-2464

Office Hours

M-Th: 8:00am - 6:00pm

F: 8:00am - 3:00pm



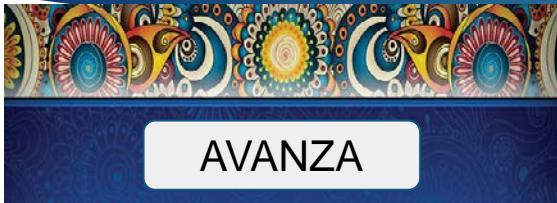
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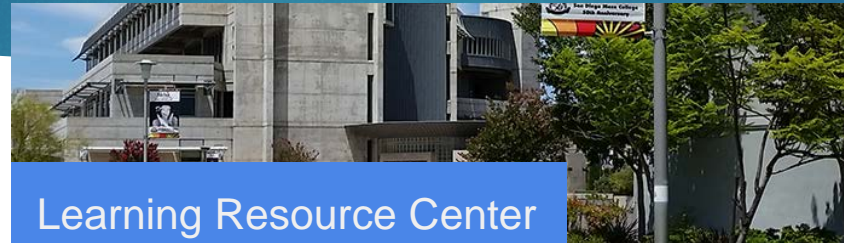
WHAT IS BORDERLESS SCHOLARS?

The Borderless Scholars' program is designed to provide a safe and welcoming environment for undocumented students and undocu-allies. We support these students to overcome personal and educational challenges due to their immigration status. We provide personal, career, and academic counseling, on-campus support services, and community resources including free legal services. Advocacy and social justice is our main passion; allow us to be the support you need.

Student Support Services @ Mesa College

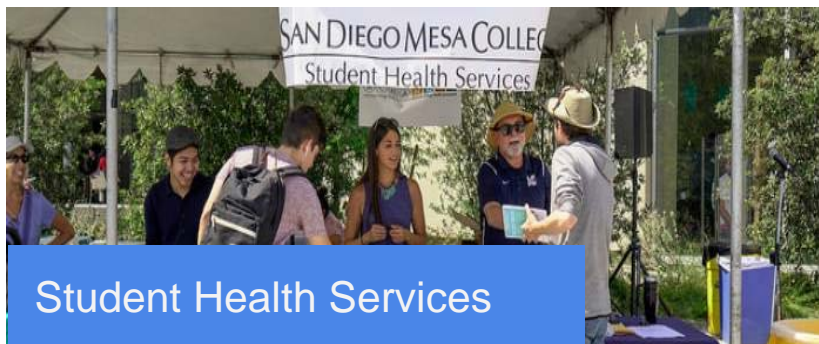


SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE
EOPS



Learning Resource Center

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE
Borderless Scholars



Student Health Services



Counseling Services

Student Support Services @ Mesa College continue



Ways to support Undocumented Students

- └ Engage with an Open Mind
 - ➔ No single answer or path for all students
 - ➔ Ongoing collaboration and follow-ups
- └ Create a Safe Space:
 - ➔ Identify yourself as an ally/supporter:
 - ↓ Posters/stickers/bookmarks/apparel/etc.
 - ➔ Trust take time, avoid unwelcoming terms (illegal, alien)
- └ Learn about Relevant Institutional Policies & Legislation
 - ➔ Admissions/financial aid processes
 - ↓ AB-540, financial aid documents
 - ➔ SB 68, Public Charge
- └ Identify Allies on and off campus
 - ➔ Build your network
- └ Access Reputable Legal Information & Assistance
 - ➔ <https://www.immigration.lawhelp.org/>
 - ➔ immigrantrising.org/legalintake
 - ➔ Alliance San Diego
 - ➔ San Diego Mesa College Borderless Scholars Program



Scenario

Work on case study and share ideas on how you would advise/support the student.

Scenario

- ❖ Undocumented first generation student, graduated from HS eight years ago. Was informed by a High School counselor that since he didn't have a social security number he was not able to go to college. Even though he was admitted to a couple of UC Universities he didn't attend higher education and he has been working at a fast food restaurant ever since. He is currently taking a psychology class, he is interested in pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in this major. He would like to transfer to UCSD, this is his first semester at San Diego Mesa College, and he paid for his psychology class out of pocket. He doesn't know who to talk to for guidance on his education. He could only take evening classes since he works during the day, he has bills to pay so he cannot afford to go to school full time.
- How can we support this student?
- What services could we provide?
- Referrals? Who?
- Apply for DACA and/or CA Dream Act?

Student Voices

