

RESOURCES FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS AT UC'S

By: Enrique Campos

Undocumented Student Program @ UCLA

PRESENTER INTRODUCTIONS

USP TEAM



ENRIQUE



VALERIA



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VALERIA



LESLIE



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BEATRIZ



CARLOS



KEVIN



INTRODUCTION

- A recent report by the Migration Policy Institute finds that an estimated over 98,000 undocumented students graduate from high school every year
- About 27,000 are from California
- An estimated 10% enroll in college or postsecondary education

*While it is important that we are able to get an idea of the estimated number of undocumented students that live in the U.S., many students are faced with limited opportunities because of varying reasons

*Regardless of immigration status, ALL students should be able to pursue their aspiration to attaining a college degree, without constraints

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Message from the *University of California*

“UC welcomes and supports students without regard to their immigration status. [The UC system] issued a statement of principles reaffirming its commitment to vigorously protect the privacy and civil rights of our undocumented students...[in every UC there is] someone who can answer your questions and provide guidance [to navigate your college experience].”

Message from the Undocumented Student Program (Mission Statement)

The Undocumented Student Program (USP), within the UCLA Bruin Resource Center (BRC), supports undocumented students by providing caring, personalized services and resources that enable students to reach their highest potential. Through a variety of programs, workshops, and partnerships with students, campus allies, and community stakeholders, USP strives to support all members of the UndocuBruin community. By advocating for educational equity, empowering students, and fostering a campus environment, USP celebrates the unique contributions of all its members.

STUDENT LED ADVOCACY

The UC's and CSU's have established several initiatives and/or support services to provide undocumented students with the commitment that their universities are safe spaces that welcome all students to higher education.

It is important to acknowledge that, student led advocacy in support of undocumented students has led to the creation of [Dream/undocumented Student Centers] in many colleges and universities

Many student groups advocated for themselves so that their college/university would institutionalize programs and services that the students were offering for each other as peer-support/peer-network

APPLICATION PROCESS

During application process: The application process is the same for all students. For those students qualifying for AB540 (nonresident tuition exemption [including AB2000/SB68], the UC & CSU offer application fee waivers for up to 4 universities each (based on student's meeting income guidelines)

- UC Application: <https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Date/Deadline	Task
August 1	UC application opens
September 1-30	Apply for Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)
November 1-30	Submit UC application online
January	Submit Transfer Application Update (TAU)
March-April	Notification of admission decisions
June 1	Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline
June-July	Waitlist admission notification

*Table provided by: University of California

CSU Application: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply>

*Application open:
Oct 1st-Nov30th



APPLICATION PROCESS

- You can begin preparing for the application, you do not have to wait until November to start
- Start brainstorming responses to the Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)
 - 1 Question required: *Please describe how you have prepared for your intended major, including your readiness to succeed in your upper-division courses once you enroll at the university.*
 - Respond to 3 additional from the remainder 7 options available

Common Question received from students:

- Should I disclose my undocumented status on the PIQs?

CONSIDERATIONS IN YOUR APPLICATION

- These are the areas of focus that you should work on:
 - General Education
 - Follow the IGETC
 - Consider some majors require their own pattern (e.g. Engineering)
 - Major courses (required, preparation courses)
 - GPA (2.4 to apply, but strong GPA will increase your chances of admission)
 - Achievements, involvement, extra-curricular activities

QUESTIONS ON CITIZENSHIP

- You will be prompted with a citizenship question. Please respond to the country you are citizen/were born in
 - If you choose any country other than US, you will be prompted to respond additional question
 - For undocumented students, select “No Selection” and follow the directions for the SSN below.
 - If you have a valid SSN through DACA or other ways, or ITIN enter it. If you do not have one, leave it blank (this will prompt Registrar’s Office to notify you about out-of-state status, but if you meet AB540 criteria, you will then submit your AB540 Affidavit that will serve to exempt you from out of state fees and be eligible for Financial Aid)

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid: Students who meet AB540 eligibility criteria should submit a California Dream Act by the March 2nd priority deadline to be considered for state financial aid and institutional aid for the following academic year.

Students will be considered for some of the following types of financial aid

- Cal Grants
- University Grants/scholarships
- Dream Loans
- Work-study (non-federal program)
- Dreamer Incentive Grant (starting 2021, Fall)

*Students are HIGHLY encouraged to apply to private scholarships to help cover costs that may not be covered by the state financial aid offered to them

*The UCLA Financial Aid Office publishes a yearly guide to complete the CA Dream Act Application

FINANCIAL AID

Eligibility	DACA only (resided in CA for 1 day and 1 year)	AB 540 Only	AB540 + DACA (establishing residency with AB540)	No DACA or AB540
In-state Tuition	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Cal Grants (CA DREAM Act)	No	Yes	Yes	No
UCLA Scholarships	Yes, (private/donor funded) temporary SB77 Law (ends June 2021)	Yes	Yes	Yes, (private/donor funded) temporary SB77 Law (ends June 2021)
Work Study	No	Yes	Yes	No
University Loans (Dream Loan)	No	Yes	Yes	No
Campus Employment	Yes	No	Yes	No

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

- The California Community Colleges Office of the Chancellor, the California State University and the University of California have developed resource websites to help prospective and continuing students find the information they need to get to and through college. The overall goal is to support students achieve their academic, professional and personal goals.

The support services vary by campus within each university system and are not limited to the following:

- Support services and/or programs (AKA Dream Centers)
 - Some employment/volunteer opportunities
- Point person - Staff/faculty
- Programming, Informational workshops & Celebratory Events
- Emergency & other Grants
- UndocuAlly Trainings
- Local Community Org Networks (for referrals)
- UC Immigrant Legal Services Center
- Mental Health Support
- Graduate Student Support
- Student Organizations (advocacy)

UC IMMIGRANT LEGAL SERVICES

- Legal Services at UCLA
- Students can set up an appointment and communicate with our staff attorney via video call or audio call. If you are in need of financial support for DACA renewals please refer to Habiba directly. Funding is available for current UCLA students.



Habiba Simjee
Staff Attorney

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Resources

Mariposa Achievement Project (MAP)

Retention Program (USPARC)

Cohort Style Meetings
1:1 Meeting

Housing Initiative

High-Density Housing (affordable option)

Education & Outreach

UndocuAlly Trainings

Educational training that discusses history, legislation, best practices

Committees

UndocuAlly
ACIP
ECRT

UNDOCU-SITE

Residential program for undocumented CC students

Dream Summer

10 week leadership development program that offers stipend.

UndocuBruins Fellowship Program

The *UCLA UndocuBruins Fellowship* was created to ensure that all students, regardless of immigration status, have the opportunity to receive financial support and achieve their educational and professional goals.

The fellowship provides a stipend of \$5000 for the 2020-2021 academic year for students to engage in training and research projects with the guidance of a department.

Site placements include: LGBTQ CRC, Graduate Student Resource Center, Career Center, Faculty Research Fund for Immigrant Students, Transfer Center, and more!

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Support services and/or programs (AKA Dream Centers): Within the UC system, there are centers, programs, or office with point person that offer guidance and holistic support to undocumented students

- They operate as the central hub of information for prospective and continuing students and the campus community (staff & faculty)
- They collaborate with on/off campus organizations
- Textbook lending libraries
- Transportation scholarships
- Computer lending programs
- Professional development/fellowship programs
- Internship/volunteer opportunities
- Support for student organizations
- Community building
- The Campaign for College Opportunity designed a website that maps out the colleges and universities in California that support undocumented students and the type of support each campus offers
 - <https://collegecampaign.org/undoc-student-resources/>

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Point Person (Staff/Faculty): Within the UC system, there are centers, programs, or office with point person that offer guidance and holistic support to undocumented students

This came from student advocacy – students advocated to have a point person designated to support undocumented students navigate their educational experience

- Most UCs have a designated Undocumented Student Program Coordinator/Director
- Some CSUs have a designated Coordinator at their Center, while others are just a point person at a given department who has advocated on behalf of undocumented students and/or is familiar with resources available on/off campus

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Programming/Celebratory Events: With a holistic approach, many UCs and CSUs developed programming that aims to inform students on access to resources that can enhance their academic, personal, and professional development. Also, some of the events aim to celebrate the accomplishments of those students

- Informational workshops: e.g. legal information, resources, mental health & wellness, professional and academic development, financial aid,
- Drop in office hours in partnership with on campus resource offices
- Research Presentation events
- Yield events (prospective students)
- Orientations geared towards undocumented students
- Welcome Receptions
- Graduation Ceremonies

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Emergency Funds & Other Grants: The purpose of these funds and grants are to support students who find themselves in a financial hardship. They are offered on a case by case basis. These emergency funds are most often administered by an office within Student Affairs. It is important to reach out to the university you wish to apply to see if these emergency funds are available

- Often a one-time funding awarded to student in financial need/distress
- Aim to solve a long term financial crisis
 - Helps students create budget or plans to try to not fall in the same financial crisis
- Can cover unexpected costs
- Might offer support with immediate food insecurity
- Some centers might offer grants/scholarships or work with the student to help identify a funding source if needed

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

UndocuAlly Trainings: The purpose of these UndocuAlly trainings are typically half-day long professional development opportunities for faculty, staff and event students (especially those who are in a leadership/mentorship role). This trainings aim to provide attendees with relevant information that addresses the needs of undocumented students (& their families, including, mixed-status families). The information includes information on federal and state legislation that impact the lives of undocumented students and how they can be supported to thrive academically, personally and professionally.

*One of the first most-comprehensive undocuAlly trainings was done at CSULB through the AB540 Program that many institutions have utilized as a model to continue to offer such trainings on their respective campus - ab540.com

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Local Community Organizations Networks: The work that the UCs/CSUs do to support undocumented students may not always be enough despite the will to offer more comprehensive support. To make sure that students are put in the right hands, those staff/faculty who are the point of contact may build strong relationships/partnerships with local organizations to offer referrals, trainings, and other forms of support for the students

- students are also referred from the CBO to the university
- They support each other to provide holistic support to the student
 - Troubleshoot together to figure out a student's situation/need
 - Can brainstorm together to identify common themes to support students
 - Rely on each other to provide information (presentations/workshops/referrals)

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

UC Immigrant Legal Services Center: “The University of California Immigrant Legal Services Center serves the immigration-related legal needs of undocumented and immigrant students in the University of California system...[which] provides free of charge, the legal assistance they need in order to achieve their educational goals and reach their full potential.”

- Operates out of the UC Davis School of Law
- Supports the student’s family members in need of immigration-related assistance

*CSUs: While the CSUs currently do not offer such a service, there has also been a long lasting advocacy efforts to provide legal services for students and their families. Most often, the staff at CSUs work with CBOs to offer legal information/support to the students and their families to bridge the gap until a similar model is established there too.

*Students long term advocacy with the UC Office of the President granted them full scope immigration legal services as long as they were enrolled in any of the UCs

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

Mental Health Support:

Typically, the staff/faculty member designated to be the point person wears multiple hats. They sometimes serve as listeners to the student's experiences, while keeping in mind they are not mental health professionals – so they must refer.

- Partnership with Counseling & Psychological Services
 - Drop in hours at the undocumented/dream centers
 - Referrals to point staff member within CAPS

Graduate Student Support: While majority of the focus is geared to undergraduate students – there is a growing need to support undocumented students going into graduate/professional school or postbac programs.

- Informational workshops to help students navigate graduate/professional school
 - Student panels
- Resource guides to help students navigate the grad application process

STUDENT PANEL

BEATRIZ HERMAN

Communications
Major

KEVIN MENDEZ LOPEZ

Political Science
Major

**Chicana and Chicano Studies
& Central American Studies**
Minor

YRIDIA AYVAR

**Chicana and Chicano Studies
& Central American Studies**
Major

Education Studies
Minor

THANK YOU!

LOOK HERE FOR MORE!

[HTTPS://WWW.USP.UCLA.EDU](https://www.usp.ucla.edu)

[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/UCLAUNDOCUBRUINS](https://linktr.ee/uclaundocubruins)

IG: UNDOCUBRUINS

Enrique Campos

ecampos@saonet.ucla.edu

Kevin Mendez Lopez

klopez@saonet.ucla.edu

Beatriz Herman

Bherman@saonet.ucla.edu