

By: Enrique Campos

Undocumented Student Program @ UCLA





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



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].”

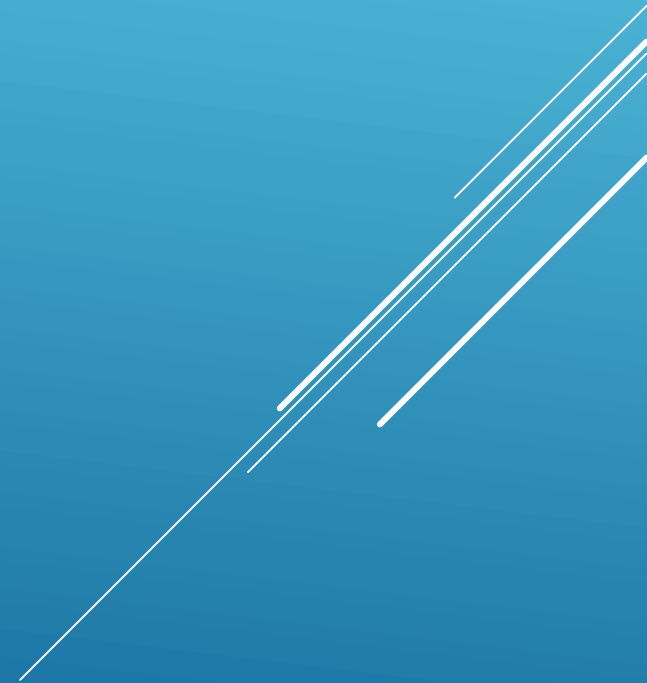
The Undocumented Student Program (USP), within the UCLA Bruin Resource Center (BRC), supports undocumented students by providing caring, personalized services and resources that enable students to reach their highest potential. Through a variety of programs, workshops, and partnerships with students, 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.



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



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
Submit Transfer Application (TAG) (TAG)	January
Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline	June 1
admission notification	June-July

*Table provided by: University of California

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

*Application open:
Oct 1st-Nov30th



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

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)



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



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.

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)



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!

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/>



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

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

" 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



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

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



Major

Major

Major

Minor

Minor

LOOK HERE FOR MORE!

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

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

IG: UNDOCUBRUIINS

Enrique Campos

ecampos@saonet.ucla.edu

Kevin Mendez Lopez

klopez@saonet.ucla.edu

Beatriz Herman

Bherman@saonet.ucla.edu