

Student Support Services Resources for Counseling Immigrant Youth

A Guide for School Counselors, Social Workers and Family Counselors



We Are Broward
Immigrant Support Plan

Broward County  Public Schools [#wearebroward](https://www.broward.k12.fl.us/)

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Student Support Services Resources for Counseling Immigrant Youth

Education is a right for all people, regardless of their status. In 1982, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Plyler v. Doe* that public schools are prohibited from denying immigrant students access to a public K-12 education. Public schools and school personnel are also prohibited from adopting policies or taking actions that deny students access to education based on their immigration status.

On March 7, 2017 the School Board of Broward County, FL adopted Resolution No. 17-98 designating the School Board of Broward County, FL as an inclusive, safe and welcoming district ensuring a protected space and environment for all students regardless of immigration status, religion, or country of origin to learn and thrive.

Your Role as a Trusted Ally

To your undocumented students you are more than a counselor or social worker; you are their ally. You are instrumental in helping them reach their educational goals.

As a first step towards developing your students' trust, we recommend using care and **discretion in your communication**. For example, instead of using the term "*illegal immigrant*," simply say "*undocumented*." No human being is illegal and use of the term is both dehumanizing and humiliating. Encourage your colleagues and the student body in general to adopt this language, too.

It is also important to remember that **confidentiality is key**. When undocumented students come out to you about their immigration status, understand **they are putting a great deal of trust in you**. While you cannot legally ask students about their status, you can reassure them your office is an open and safe space to talk and anything they share with you will remain private.

When students reveal their status to you, listen to them but **do not offer legal advice**. Doing so can put your career and your student at risk. Instead, focus on creating a plan to help your student get into college.

The process of pursuing higher education can be frustrating for undocumented students, but it can be done.

Understanding Undocumented Students

An undocumented student is a foreign national who entered the U.S.:

- Without inspection or with fraudulent documents.
- As a nonimmigrant, but overstayed the length of his/her visa. Most undocumented students, though they may have grown up in the U.S. and may think of the country as their home, have no legal path to citizenship. Some undocumented students may not even have known about their immigration status until they began the college application process.

College-bound undocumented students:

- Do not qualify for federal aid, even if their parents pay taxes.

- May not qualify for state-based financial aid. Federal law allows states to choose whether to extend financial aid to undocumented students. To date, only five states have chosen to do so: California, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas, and Washington.
- In some cases are not able to work legally in the U.S. to fund their education. DACA recipients, however, can apply for two-year renewable work permits.
- May not be eligible for paid internships or fellowships. Again, DACA recipients can apply for two-year renewable work permits.
- Should not pursue career paths that will require licensing or background checks.

Working with Undocumented Students

1. **Keep an open mind & an open office.** Set your students at ease by signaling your openness to discuss immigration status. Put up inspirational posters and publications catered towards undocumented students and their access to higher education in the U.S. Do not interrogate students about their status or assume students are undocumented; instead, be patient and wait for students to confide in you.
2. **Be Inclusive** Include information for undocumented students in all presentations and publications rather than creating separate materials for them. Otherwise, undocumented students may feel isolated and demoralized. Make it known you are trained to work with different types of students, including the undocumented.
3. **Know what you're talking about.** Be knowledgeable about specific government and college admission policies affecting undocumented students across the country. Speak with undocumented students who have already been through the college application process and ask them for advice on how to help students in their situation.
4. **Research private scholarships.** Make a list of private sponsors and scholarships that do not require applicants to be citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. If you know of any local scholarships in your school or community, encourage those managing the scholarship to allow undocumented students to apply, too.
5. **Help your students build lasting networks.** Encourage undocumented students to form support networks to lean on during the college application process and after. Support networks may be composed of other undocumented students, older undocumented students who can serve as role models, and mentors to whom students can turn to for advice.
6. **Be supportive & encouraging.** It is perfectly fine to let students know about the challenges they may face because of their immigration status; nevertheless, reassure them these challenges can be overcome. Remind them thousands of undocumented students have successfully pursued a college education.
7. **Don't transfer your fears.** It is your responsibility to create a safe environment for your students, while giving them the freedom to choose how to handle their personal affairs. If one of your students chooses to come out as undocumented, don't tell him or her to stop talking about his status in public.

8. **Be an advocate for your students.** Support the federal DREAM Act and other state-based legislation that work to improve the situation for undocumented youth across the U.S. Within your school, take the lead on initiatives to help undocumented students by, for example, creating an in-house scholarship for college or starting a club to fight for immigrant rights.

Talking to Undocumented Students about Sensitive Subjects

What NOT to Say	What to Say
“Going to college isn’t really an option for you.”	Applying to and enrolling in college will be challenging, but it IS possible. Thousands of other talented, hard-working undocumented students have already graduated from college.
“You’re not going to be able to get any money for college.” While	You are not eligible to receive federal financial aid; you may be eligible for in-state tuition as well as private scholarships that will ease your financial burden as you pursue a college degree.
“Why don’t you just legalize?”	Have you spoken with an immigration attorney to find out if you can legalize? There may be immigration remedies you and your family are not currently aware of.
“Even if you get a college degree, you’re never going to be able to work legally.”	Although a college degree will not change your immigration status, it will open up many opportunities for you once you legalize or obtain a work permit. In addition, a college degree may even open up opportunities for you abroad if you should choose to leave the country.
“Why don’t you go back home and get a degree?”	If you have family and connections in another country, you may consider pursuing educational opportunities outside the United States. Remember, however, this would mean being separated from your family and friends in the U.S. and you may be barred from returning to the U.S. for 10 years.
“In order to apply to college, you’re going to have to reveal everything.”	When applying to college, you may find it helpful to be honest about your immigration status. Though this may be scary to you and your family, rest assured that under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), colleges and universities are prohibited from sharing your personal information. Also remember when filling out applications it is against the law to lie about your immigration status, or use a SSN or ITIN that is not your own.

The Importance of Involving Family

It is important to keep parents of undocumented students in the loop about their child's plans for college.

Parents of undocumented students may not fully understand what is involved in the college application process and *may be fearful* going to college will put their child's safety at risk. Schedule meetings with parents of undocumented students and remind them that your office *is a safe and open space* where everything discussed will remain private.

Try reassuring parents by explaining the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which *protects a student's privacy and prohibits colleges and universities from sharing information* they gather with other organizations like the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Make it known to parents that thousands of undocumented students have *successfully pursued college degrees in the U.S.*, and many of them were *awarded private scholarships or financial aid* to help them achieve their educational goals.

Connect undocumented students and their families to additional *community support services*, such as local organizations or other undocumented students who are either in or have already graduated from college.

Facts about DACA

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is an immigration option for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States before the age of 16. Although DACA does not provide a pathway to lawful permanent residence, it does provide temporary protection from deportation, work authorization, and the ability to apply for a social security number.

- President Obama created the DACA program in 2012.
- As a result of DACA, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will no longer deport certain undocumented youth who arrived in the United States as children.
- DACA grants eligible undocumented youth **the right to lawfully reside within the U.S.**
- It is important to remember DACA is **temporary** and does not provide a path to permanent resident status or U.S. citizenship.
- Those who are accepted into DACA are issued a **two-year permit**. At the end of the two years, an undocumented youth may apply to **renew** the permit if he or she wishes to extend his or her stay in the country.
- As of March 2017, The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program is still available and the government is still accepting and approving DACA initial and renewal applications. However, **the program could be terminated at any time**
- Initial DACA applications are taking 6-8 months to process at this time. New applicants run the risk of losing \$495, the application may be denied and a "Notice to Appear" may be issued in removal proceedings against anyone who is denied DACA. The original DACA program promised that even in the event of denial, unless the applicant was a priority for removal under the Johnson memo, information would not be shared with ICE but we do not yet know the new administration's priorities.

- People with serious criminal convictions or convictions may render them ineligible for DACA, should not apply, and should speak to an attorney with regards to getting post-conviction relief.

DACA Requirements

In order to be eligible for DACA, an undocumented youth must meet the following requirements:

- The individual arrived in the U.S. before his/her sixteenth birthday.
- The individual was under the age of 31 on June 15, 2012.
- The individual has continuously lived in the U.S. since June 15, 2007.
- The individual was present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making his/her application for DACA.
- The individual had no lawful status on June 15, 2012.
- The individual is currently in school, has graduated from high school or received a GED certificate, or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Armed Forces or Coast Guard of the United States.
- The individual has not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanor offenses.
- The individual does not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

The FAFSA & Applications for Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used by most colleges and universities in the U.S. to determine a student's eligibility for federal, state, and college-sponsored financial aid programs. **Undocumented students do not qualify for federally funded scholarships and grants.** Undocumented students include DACA recipients and Dreamers.

If you are working with an undocumented student, **make sure he/she DOES NOT:**

- *Submit a FAFSA form to the government.*
- *Provide any false information on applications for college, university, or financial aid.*

What determines eligibility for state and federal financial aid programs is the immigration status of the student, and NOT that of his or her parents. Therefore, if a student is a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident but one of more of his or her parents is undocumented, the student is eligible for federal student aid.

- Undocumented parents should use 000-00-0000 as their SSN on the FAFSA. The FAFSA will be rejected if parents submit an ITIN.
- Undocumented parents cannot request a PIN number to sign the FAFSA electronically. They must print the application, sign it, and send it by mail.

Remember:

- College and university applications will never require students to provide a SSN; it is optional.
- A SSN is required to complete the FAFSA.
- It is against the law for people to use a SSN that is not their own or is false. Be aware some private scholarships may ask students to submit a FAFSA to prove financial need. Private scholarships ask this because the FAFSA may be their only method of measuring financial aid. In this situation, tell

your student to print out the application and send it to the private scholarship directly; he or she SHOULD NOT send a copy to the government. In general, advise your student to consult an admissions officer from the college or university he or she is applying to for advice before submitting any documentation.

A couple of questions to take into consideration:

*Does applying for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) make a student less safe?

ITINS are issued by the IRS to individuals who do not qualify for a Social Security Number (SSN), such as undocumented immigrants and foreign investors. The IRS does not share the information they gather with the Department of Homeland Security. Therefore, applying for an ITIN will not compromise a student's safety.

Note: DACA recipients may be eligible to apply for a SSN. For more information, visit: www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/deferred_action.pdf.

*Does a student need to come out as undocumented in order to be eligible for resources available to undocumented youth?

No, students do not need to reveal their immigration status to access resources catered towards undocumented youths.

*What if a financial aid/admissions advisor asks my student to fill out the FAFSA?

*If a financial aid/admissions advisor asks your student to fill out the FAFSA and he/she does not have a social security number, **he/she can fill it out but SHOULD NOT send it to the government.** Remember, undocumented students do not qualify for federal aid and submitting FAFSA forms with false information is against the law.*

Private Scholarships

Many private scholarships are available to undocumented students. These scholarships tend to be highly competitive. It is important students maintain high grades and participate in extra-curricular activities while in high school so they can distinguish themselves from other applicants when applying for scholarships.

Private Colleges and Universities

Many private schools are able to provide need-based scholarships and financial aid to students, irrespective of their immigration status. In contrast, public colleges and universities, for the most part, can only provide merit-based scholarships to undocumented students who must compete for the scholarships with the rest of the student body on the basis of their academic achievements and talents.

Tell your students to ask the colleges where they are applying if they offer private scholarships and what the requirements for eligibility are.

Students could even ask about what resources are available to undocumented applicants. Help your student research different community centers, churches, and local schools to find out if they offer

scholarships. Remind students to apply to as many scholarships as possible, no matter how much (or little) the financial award, because scholarship money adds up quickly!

Financial Aid Options
Questions to Ask Admissions Officers & Financial Aid Advisors

Type of Aid	U.S. Citizen	Legal Permanent Resident	Visa Holder	DACA Recipient	Undocumented
Federal Aid	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
State Aid	Yes	Yes		No	No
In-State Tuition	Yes, If student meets residency requirements	Yes, If student meets residency requirements	Depends on student's visa type	Yes, in Florida	Yes, In Florida
Government Loans	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Private Loans	Yes	Yes	Yes, but may need U.S. Citizen or permanent resident cosigner	Yes, but may need U.S. Citizen or permanent resident cosigner	Yes, but may need U.S. Citizen or permanent resident cosigner
Government Grants	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Institutional Aid	Yes	Yes	Depends on student's visa type and the school they attend	Depends on school student attends	Depends on school student attends
Federal Work-Study	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Private Scholarships	Depends on eligibility requirements	Depends on eligibility requirements	Depends on eligibility requirements	Depends on eligibility requirements	Depends on eligibility requirements

Scholarship Applications: Tips for Students

List your accomplishments

Before you start, make a list of your accomplishments you can refer to as clear, concrete examples of ***your strengths*** in your essays.

Research the scholarship

Research the individual or institution offering the scholarship to ***find out what they look for*** in applicants. Clearly articulate these qualities in your essays to show you are an ideal and deserving candidate.

Get to the point!

Answer questions clearly and directly. Adhere to the word and page limits. *You may choose to mention your immigration status and the obstacles you had to overcome because of it or explain you are ineligible for federal aid for higher education.*

Comb through and edit

Proofread your essays: spelling mistakes and bad grammar are unacceptable. Ask at least two people to read through your work before sending it in.

Prepare for interviews

Many private scholarships require face-to-face interviews with their applicants. It is a good idea to ***start practicing public speaking*** and interview techniques.

Find an advocate to help you

Many scholarships require ***letters of recommendation*** for teachers or counselors. Make sure whomever you ask knows you well and understands your immigration situation.

Is there an appeal process?

If you are awarded a scholarship but the award money is not enough to cover your costs, be aware some scholarships have an appeal process in which you may receive additional aid under special circumstances.

In-State Tuition Policy

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.

Unfortunately, federal financial aid is unavailable for undocumented students. Sixteen states have passed laws that offer in-state tuition rates and grants to undocumented students.

States that offer in-state tuition rates for undocumented students in addition to Florida: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington.

**2017 Tuition, Fees, and Living Costs Comparison Table
(Examples of Colleges in Florida)**

School	Tuition & Fees		Books & Supplies	Living Costs	
	In-State	Out-of-State		On Campus	Off Campus
Broward College	\$2,753	\$8,875	\$1,234		\$18,139
Florida Atlantic University (FAU)	\$4,831	\$17,276	\$1,320	\$16,494	\$17,082
University of Central Florida (UCF)	\$6,368	\$22,467	\$1,152	\$14,734	\$14,734
Florida International University (FIU)	\$6,556	\$18,954	\$1,590	\$15,366	\$17,191
University of Florida (UF)	\$6,381	\$28,659	\$1,210	\$13,660	\$13,660
Miami-Dade College	\$2,834	\$9,661	\$1,600		\$22,415
The Art Institute of Ft. Lauderdale	\$17,700	\$17,700	\$1,500		\$11,810
Barry University	\$28,800	\$28,800	\$1,500	\$15,540	\$19,100
Lynn University	\$36,650	\$36,650	\$800	\$16,552	\$17,391
Keiser University	\$18,368	\$18,368	\$2,000		\$15,816
University of Miami (UM)	\$47,004	\$47,004	\$930	\$16,372	\$19,552
Nova Southeastern University	\$28,736	\$28,736	\$1,500	\$17,100	\$27,135

<http://www.collegetuitioncompare.com/compare/tables/?state=FL°ree=Undergraduate>

Speaking with Admissions:

Speaking directly with an admissions officer or financial aid advisor will be extremely valuable. When calling an admissions or financial aid office, *ask if there is a member of staff who specializes in working with undocumented students.*

Listed below are some questions you may want to ask:

Admissions:

- How should an undocumented student respond to the citizenship question on your application? Should an undocumented student leave the SSN field blank or enter zeros?
- Can students leave fields blank on your online application or will they need to submit a paper application?

Financial Aid:

- Are undocumented students eligible for any institutional financial aid? If so, are there any additional forms they need to complete?
- Do you offer fee or tuition waivers and if so how may students apply for them?
- How can students qualify for in-state tuition?

Scholarships:

- Do you offer institutional scholarships for undocumented students? How about private scholarships?
- What qualifications are needed to apply to these scholarships? Should students submit any additional forms?
- If a student is awarded a scholarship, what must he/she do to keep it? Will he/she lose the scholarship as a result of poor grades?
- Are these scholarships valid for the entire duration a student is enrolled at your school? What if a student takes longer than four years to graduate? Do you have any scholarships for transfer students?

Programs of Study:

- Are there any majors that are unavailable to undocumented students because of their immigration status?
- Does applying to this school/major require a background check?
- After graduation, can undocumented students work with this type of degree? Or would they need to get a background check, certificate, or state licensure that they would be ineligible for because of their immigration status?

Further Alternatives for Funding

Many undocumented students get creative when searching for alternative ways to pay for college. Here are some examples of what students do to ease their financial burden:

Crowdfunding:

Online crowdfunding websites are useful for targeting a large number of people at one time. Most websites allow people to post a short story about themselves and their funding mission to persuade others to support their cause. Students can post a personalized crowdfunding link to their Facebook page, Twitter, and other social media platforms they may use to connect with their friends and family.

Donation Letters:

Students could draft a donation letter asking family, friends, and local businesses to support them financially and help them achieve their educational goals. Students should specify why they are pursuing higher education, what they hope to do with their education, and outline the financial struggles they foresee as they work towards their degree.

Private loans:

Some banks offer private loans to undocumented immigrants. However, these banks typically require qualified undocumented borrowers to have a credit-worthy U.S. citizen or permanent resident co-sign the loan. Students and their families should be aware loans usually come with high interest rates.

FLORIDA IN-STATE TUITION LAW FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS



If you are an undocumented student in **FLORIDA**, or if you have received DACA, this law might allow you to pay fair tuition rates at state colleges and universities.

WHO QUALIFIES?

Students that attended and graduated from a Florida High School (GED is not eligible) for at least 3 years AND have applied to a higher education institution within 24 months of graduation.

HOW?

Your college or university provides an out-of-state tuition waiver so you can pay the same as every other student.

MYTHS ABOUT IN-STATE TUITION LAW

1. **Does this mean I am an “in-state student?”** No. You will be categorized as a non-Florida resident with a partial tuition waiver.
2. **Am I eligible for financial aid?** No. This law DOES NOT grant eligibility for government financial support. Students are encouraged to seek financial aid from private, non-government scholarships.

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Out-of-state tuition can be more than **DOUBLE** the amount of in-state tuition.

Find out more about scholarships: www.floridaimmigrant.org
Call our FREE hotline at 1-888-600-5762



floridaimmigrant.org



Florida Immigrant Coalition



@FLImmigrant



Ten Myths About Immigration

<http://www.tolerance.org/article/sources-ten-myths-about-immigration>

Myths about immigration and immigrants are common. Here are a few of the most frequently heard misconceptions—along with information to help you and your students separate fact from fear.

When students make unfounded statements, one response is to simply ask, "How do you know that's true?" Whatever the answer—even if it's "That's what my parents say"—probe a little further. Ask, "Where do you think they got that information?" or "That sounds like it might be an opinion, not a fact." Guide students to find a reliable source for accurate information and help them figure out how to check the facts.

1. Most immigrants are here illegally.

With so much controversy around the issue of immigrants who are undocumented, it's easy to overlook the fact most of the foreign-born people living in the United States followed the rules and have permission to be here. Of the more than 43 million foreign-born people who were living in the United States in 2014, around 44 percent were naturalized U.S. citizens. Those who were not naturalized were either lawful permanent residents, also known as green-card holders (27 percent of all foreign-born people), or immigrants who were unauthorized (some 11 million people, representing 25.5 percent of all foreign-born people). Although it is not known exactly what percentage of that 11 million originally entered legally with valid visas and let their visas expire (experts estimate it to be approximately 40 percent), it is known that—by far—the nation with the most visitors who do not leave at the end of their authorized stay is Canada.

2. It's easy to enter the country legally. My ancestors did; why can't immigrants today?

If you hear students making this statement, ask them when their ancestors immigrated and if they know what the entry requirements were at the time. For about the first 100 years, the United States had an "open immigration system that allowed any able-bodied immigrant in," according to immigration historian David Reimers. Back then, the biggest obstacle that would-be immigrants faced were getting here. Some even sold themselves into indentured servitude to do so. Today, however, many rules specify who may enter and remain in the country legally. There is also a rigorous process for obtaining documentation to enter the United States as a resident, including applying for immigrant visas and permanent resident/green-card status. Many students' immigrant ancestors who arrived between 1790 and 1924 would not have been allowed in under the current policy. Generally, permission to enter and stay in the country as a documented immigrant is limited to people who are highly trained in a skill that is in short supply here and have been offered a job by a U.S. employer, are escaping political persecution, are joining close family already here or are winners of the green-card lottery.

3. Today's immigrants don't want to learn English.

While most first-generation immigrants may speak their first language at home, 35 percent of those age 5 or older speak English "very well" and 21 percent speak it "well," according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Nearly 730,000 people became naturalized citizens during the 2015 fiscal year. They had to overcome such obstacles as traveling to the United States, finding a job, tackling language barriers, paying naturalization and lawyer's fees and dealing with an ever-changing immigration bureaucracy. Immigrants must speak, read, write and understand the English language, not only for the naturalization application process, but also so they can pass a 100-question civics test that has both oral and written components.

It's also worth discussing with students the current demand for English instruction is greater than the services available in many parts of the country. Also explore with them false assumptions about "today's" immigrants versus those who arrived in prior generations. For example, ask students to find out how long it took their ancestors to stop using their first language. "Earlier immigrant groups held on to their cultures fiercely," notes Reimers. "When the United States entered the First World War [in 1917], there were over 700 German-language newspapers. Yet German immigration had peaked in the 1870s."

4. Immigrants take good jobs from U.S. citizens.

Ask students what kinds of jobs they think immigrants are taking. According to the American Immigration Council, a nonpartisan group, research indicates there is little connection between immigrant labor and unemployment rates of native-born workers. Two trends—better education and an aging population—have resulted in a decrease in the number of workers born in the United States who are willing or available to take low-paying jobs. Across all industries and occupations, though, immigrants who are naturalized citizens and workers born in the United States outnumber non-citizens.

Another version of this myth is it is undocumented immigrants who are taking jobs. However, the U.S. civilian workforce included 8 million unauthorized immigrants in 2014, which accounts for only 5 percent of the entire workforce. Compared with their small share of the civilian workforce overall, immigrants without authorization are only overrepresented in service, farming and construction occupations. This may be due to the fact that, to fill the void of low-skilled U.S. workers. Employers often hire undocumented immigrant workers. One of the consequences of this practice is it is easier for unscrupulous employers to exploit this labor source, paying immigrants less, refusing to provide benefits and ignoring worker-safety laws. On an economic level, U.S. citizens benefit from relatively low prices on food and other goods produced by undocumented immigrant labor.

5. "The worst" people from other countries are coming to the United States and bringing crime and violence.

Immigrants come to this country for a few primary reasons: to work, to be reunited with family members or to escape a dangerous situation. Most are couples, families with children, and workers who are integral to the U.S. economy. Statistics show that immigrants are less likely to commit serious crimes or be behind bars than native-born people are, and high rates of immigration are associated with lower rates of violent crime and property crime. For instance, "sanctuary counties" average 35.5 fewer crimes per 10,000 people compared to non-sanctuary counties. This holds true for immigrants who are documented and undocumented, regardless of their country of origin or level of education. In other words, the overwhelming majority of immigrants are not "criminals."

According to the American Immigration Council: “Between 1990 and 2013 the foreign-born share of the U.S. population grew from 7.9 percent to 13.1 percent and the number of unauthorized immigrants more than tripled. ... During the same period, FBI data indicate that the violent crime rate and property crime rate declined 48 percent ... [and] 41 percent [respectively].” The truth is, foreign-born people in the United States—whether they are naturalized citizens, permanent residents or immigrants who are undocumented—are incarcerated at a much lower rate than native-born Americans.

6. Undocumented immigrants don’t pay taxes and burden the national economy.

Ask students to name some ways U.S. residents pay taxes. They might come up with income tax or sales tax. Immigrants who are undocumented pay taxes every time they buy taxable goods such as gas, clothes or new appliances (depending on where they reside). They also contribute to property taxes—a main source of school funding—when they buy or rent a house or apartment. A 2017 report from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy highlights that undocumented immigrants pay an estimated \$11.74 billion in state and local taxes a year. The U.S. Social Security Administration estimated that in 2010 undocumented immigrants—and their employers—paid \$13 billion in payroll taxes alone for benefits they will never get. They can receive schooling and emergency medical care but not welfare or food stamps. Under the 1996 welfare law, most government programs require proof of documentation, and even immigrants with documents cannot receive these benefits until they have been in the United States for more than five years.

7. The United States is being overrun by immigrants like never before.

From 1890 to 1910, the foreign-born population of the United States fluctuated between 13.6 and nearly 15 percent; the peak year for admission of new immigrants was 1907, when approximately 1.3 million people entered the country legally. In 2010, about 13 percent of the population was foreign-born. Since the start of the recession in 2008, the number of immigrants without documentation coming into the country has fallen each year and, in more recent years, the number has stabilized. Many people claim immigrants have “anchor babies”—an offensive term for giving birth to children in the United States so that the whole family can stay in the country (and a narrative that contributes to the myth that the immigrant population is exploding). According to the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, a child born on U.S. soil is automatically a U.S. citizen. However, immigration judges will not keep immigrant parents in the

United States just because their children are U.S. citizens. In 2013, the federal government deported 72,410 foreign-born parents whose children had been born in the United States. U.S. citizens must be at least 21 before they can petition for a foreign-born parent to receive legal-resident status. Even then, the process is long and difficult. In reality, there is no such thing as an “anchor baby.” The vast majority of the 4 million immigrant adults without documentation who live with their children who were born in the United States have no protection from deportation.

8. We can stop undocumented immigrants coming to the United States by building a wall along the border with Mexico.

Ask students, “How do you think immigrants come to the United States?”

Immigrants who enter the United States across the United States-Mexico border without authorization could be from any number of geographical areas. The majority of unauthorized immigrants in the United States are from Mexico, but their estimated number—5.8 million in 2014— has declined by approximately 500,000 people since 2009. In 2014, 5.8 million Mexican immigrants were living in the United States without authorization, down from 6.9 million in 2007. Additionally, the number of immigrants from nations other than Mexico who are living in the United States without authorization grew to an estimated 5.3 million in 2014. Populations of immigrants who are undocumented increased from Asia, Central America and sub-Saharan Africa. So, a wall along the border with Mexico would not “stop” undocumented immigrants from coming to the United States. Building a wall or fence along the entire Mexico border is unlikely to prevent unauthorized entry. Details aside, history has shown that people have always found ways to cross walls and borders by air and sea as well as over land.

9. Banning immigrants and refugees from majority-Muslim countries will protect the United States from terrorists.

A recent executive order, issued by President Donald Trump in March 2017, blocked the entry of citizens from six Muslim-majority countries for 90 days, ostensibly to protect Americans from terrorism. The title of this executive order, "Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States," seems to equate the people most affected by the ban—Muslims—with the term *foreign terrorists*, implying that barring Muslims from entry would protect the United States from harm. However, between 1975 and 2015, no fatalities have been committed in the United States by foreign-born extremists from the countries covered by the executive order. According to Alex Nowrasteh, an immigration expert at the Cato Institute, “[Between 1975 and 2015], the annual chance of being murdered by somebody other than a foreign-born terrorist was 252.9 times greater than the chance of dying in a terrorist attack committed by a foreign-born terrorist.”

10. Refugees are not screened before entering the United States.

Ask students what the screening process is for refugees. Refugees undergo more rigorous screenings than any other individuals the government allows in the United States. It remains an extremely lengthy and rigorous process, which includes multiple background checks; fingerprint tests; interviews; health screenings; and applications with multiple intelligence, law enforcement and security agencies. The average length of time it takes for the United Nations and the United States government to approve refugee status is 18 to 24 months.

Helping Our Students and Families Understand Their Rights

Many times students and parents will ask us for information about what they can do and what their rights are. We do not offer legal advice. We can provide them with direction to the resources available to them in the community and online. Below is information available from www.aclu.org providing some basic 'Know Your Rights' information for all immigrants:

- You have the right to remain silent and you can refuse to speak to an immigration officer
- You should carry a “know your rights” type of card available at www.ilrc.org and at www.aclu.org and show that to immigration
- You should not open the door for unknown parties or law enforcement or Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
 - Most federal agents do not carry a warrant
 - If you are unclear as to who is at the door, ask for warrant and if they don't have warrant, you do not have to let them in
 - Do not be duped into opening the door simply because the agent is looking for someone who does not reside at the address or if the agent asks you to come outside
- You have a right to lawyer and you should ask to only speak to your lawyer
- You should not sign anything given to you by an immigration officer, without speaking to an attorney
- You should always carry any valid immigration documentation for US, if you have lawful status such as a student visa, or a green card
- You should not carry foreign documentation unless that is your only form of identification:
 - If individual's only form of ID is foreign documentation, individual needs to speak to attorney to weigh pros/cons of carrying sole form of ID vs. not carrying anything and this is case specific
- As an immigrant, you should:
 - Create a safety plan and keep immigration documents together. www.ilrc.org has a good example of a form available in both English and Spanish that can be used for this purpose.
 - Report and document raids and arrests

What To Do If Your Student Has A Problem

Contact a community organization near you if a student you know runs into any difficulties regarding his or her immigration status while trying to access higher education in the United States.

***Community resources are available in the Immigrant Safe Plan Section**

Some of the difficulties he or she may encounter include:

- A college or university does not allow undocumented students to apply to their institution
- A public college or university in Florida will not extend in-state tuition rates to undocumented students
- Being taken into custody or put into deportation proceedings.

If you know of an undocumented student who has been taken into custody or is in deportation proceedings or is in urgent need of help regarding their immigration status, have them use the list of community resources available in the Immigration Safe Place Plan section.

Resources & Bibliography

Resource Guides:

From the US Department of Education:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/focus/supporting-undocumented-youth.pdf>

Tools and resources to help protect and prepare youth and families in case of an immigration and customs enforcement (ice) raid:

http://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/im_uac-educators-guide_2016.pdf

How to support college-bound undocumented students: Advice for Parents

http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC_ParentGuide.pdf

Excellent Guide from Illinois:

http://www.icirr.org/content/documents/counselor_guide_2016_update.pdf

Guide from Harvard:

<file:///Users/p00035917/Downloads/Documenting-the-Pathway-to-College-10-30.pdf>

Immigrant & Refugee Children: A Guide for Educators & School Support Staff:

<http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/number-55-spring-2017/feature/immigrant-and-refugee-children-guide-educators-and-school-su>

Immigrant Legal Resource Center:

<https://www.ilrc.org/daca>

Colleges accepting undocumented students & financial information

<http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/undocumented-students-guide/>

<http://cccie.org/outreach/resources-for-colleges-serving-undocumented-students/>

<https://mydocumentedlife.org/2016/09/14/colleges-that-accept-undocumented-students-as-domestic-students/>

Advising Undocumented Students:

<https://professionals.collegeboard.org/guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students>

<https://chooseyourfuture.cps.edu/high-school-college-career/undocumented-students/>

<http://www.onlinecolleges.net/for-students/undocumented-student-college-guide/>

<http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Supporting-Floridas-Undocumented-Students-Webinar-November-2015.pdf>

Florida Immigrant Coalition –Information about In-state Tuition:
<https://floridaimmigrant.org/our-work/education-immigrant-youth/in-state-tuition/>

Florida Policy regarding In-State Tuition:
<http://uleadnet.org/map/florida-policy>

What's the Price Tag for a College Education?
http://www.collegedata.com/cs/content/content_payarticle_tmpl.jhtml?articleId=10064

<http://www.collegetuitioncompare.com/compare/tables/?state=FL°ree=Undergraduate>

<https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/tuition-fees-room-and-board-over-time>

http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/FFELP/Undocumented_Students/Undoc_Students_home.html
l (Office of Student Financial Assistance)

<http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/undocumented.phtml>

http://www.collegedata.com/cs/promo/promo_netcost_tmpl.jhtml

FAQS re HB 851 (In state Tuition):
https://floridaimmigrant.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/florida_hb_851_fact_sheet_2014_english.pdf

These are a few scholarship opportunities for undocumented students:

- CHISPAS Scholarships – chispasuf.com
- Becas Univision – univision.hsfts.net
- OCIYU Scholarship – ociyu.org/ociyu-scholarship

Here are some websites you can use to research scholarships:

<http://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/ektron/9bbef920-9549-441f-a931-a23cc97a3889/b5eb27cfd02d4b1dbefda62566dd9af45.pdf>

- Fast Web: www.fastweb.com
- Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund: www.maldef.org
- Get Ready for College: www.getreadyforcollege.org/gPg.cfm?pageID=1586
- Latino College Dollars: www.latinocollegedollars.org
- Scholarships for Hispanics: www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org
- Genesco Migrant Center: www.migrant.net
- Mexican Scholarship Fund: <http://mexicanscholarshipfund.org/>
- La Plaza Scholarship and Financial Aid Guide: (English PDF) (Spanish PDF)
- SADCO Scholarship Program: <http://sadco.org/sadco-scholarship-program>

English/Spanish Glossary of Student Financial Aid and Post Secondary Education:
<http://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/ektron/88fdd293-2f4e-4c63-996e-f4bb95192879/0787ae7a3bcd4d0e98888ea6e82a69344.pdf>

Know your rights information:

<https://www.nilc.org/issues/immigration-enforcement/everyone-has-certain-basic-rights/>

<https://www.aclu.org/>

<https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/what-do-if-youre-stopped-police-immigration-agents-or-fbi>

<https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards>

United We Dream: Protect yourself from Immigration Raids

<https://unitedwedream.org/toolbox/>

Safety Planning:

<http://michiganimmigrant.org/resources/library>

Ten myths about Immigration:

<http://www.tolerance.org/article/sources-ten-myths-about-immigration>

Southern Poverty Law Center –Immigrant Justice:

<https://www.splcenter.org/issues/immigrant-justice>

FAQS: DACA, BRIDGE Act, and being undocumented in 2017:

<https://www.informedimmigrant.com/faq/>

FAQS: The BRIDGE Act “Bar Removal of Individuals Who Dream of Growing Our Economy”

<https://www.nilc.org/issues/daca/faq-bridge-act/>



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