Supporting Undocumented & DACAmented Students

2021 UNT Diversity & Inclusion Conference
Presenter and Facilitator Information

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About the Facilitators

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OUR SHARED PURPOSE

Build knowledge and skills in order to effectively support undocumented & DACAmented students through their higher education journey.

Provide tangible steps and practices to establish a safe and welcoming campus culture that allows undocumented & DACAmented students to thrive.
Write in the chat
Name/ pronouns/ role
One positive word that comes to mind when you think about undocumented and DACAmented students
ESTABLISHING A COMMON UNDERSTANDING
UNDOCUMENTED

- Entered without inspection
- Entered with legal status but overstayed
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Mixed Status Families
Undocumented Students

12,000,000  Undocumented Immigrants live in the US
1,600,000  Undocumented Immigrants live in Texas
4,100,000  K-12 Students who live with a parent/guardian who is undocumented
500,000  U.S. citizen children experienced the deportation of a parent in the course of 2 years
98,000  Undocumented students graduate high school each year
13,000  Undocumented students enroll in college each year

Pew Research Center (2016), Migration Policy Institute (2017),
Black Undocumented Community

**DACA's Impact on Black Immigrants**

In 2012 President Obama created an executive action program for certain undocumented young people who came to the U.S. as children. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) does not provide lawful status but defers removal for eligible recipients for up to 2 years. Only 1% of DACA recipients from top countries are Black.

**575,000 Undocublack Immigrants**

- **2%** of Caribbean Immigrants are DACA Eligible
- **3%** of African Immigrants are DACA Eligible

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**Free Them All**

- **7.2%** of undocumented population in the US is Black.
- **20.3%** of folks facing deportation for crim charges are Black.

**The Immigration Enforcement System is Anti-Black.**

Data gathered from “The State of Black Immigrants,” by the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI).

Asian Undocumented Community

**Growth In Undocumented By Region Of Origin 2000-2015**

- Asia: 3.5x
- Central America: 3.0x
- Africa: 2.6x
- Caribbean: 1.9x
- South America: 1.4x
- Mexico: 1.2x

**Asian undocumented by country of origin**

- India: 458,663
- China: 387,369
- Philippines: 247,304
- South Korea: 174,677
- Vietnam: 123,060
- Pakistan: 49,555
- Other Asian Countries: 297,007

Source: US Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000

Source: Center for Migration Studies, 2015

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS IN NORTH TEXAS

- **92,407** DACA-eligible immigrant population in 2017
- **118,000** undocumented students ages 3 to 17 are enrolled in K-12
- **83,000** undocumented students were enrolled in community colleges and universities


1. Mexico.............................71%
2. El Salvador.........................8%
3. Honduras..........................5%
4. India.................................3%
5. Guatemala..........................3%
POLICIES & LEGISLATION
UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS HAVE RIGHTS

1. Have basic rights under the Constitution
2. Have the right to a K-12 education through Plyler v Doe
3. Protected by FERPA
4. Can go to college in Texas and receive state financial aid
POLICIES IMPACTING UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

1982
Plyler v. Doe
All children regardless of their immigration status have the right to a K-12 education

2001
House Bill 1403
Texas becomes first state to allow undocumented students to enroll in Higher ed and pay in-state tuition

2012
DACA
DACA was announced as an Executive Order granting undocumented students a SSN and protection from deportation

2017
DACA Rescinded
DACA was rescinded by President Trump stopping any new applications from being processed

2020
DACA Memo
Trump administration reduces DACA protection period from 2 to 1 year

2021
DACA
New DACA applications - Full restoration
Undocumented students can pay in-state tuition and receive state financial aid through HB1403 and SB1528.

Requirements:
• Graduated from high school or received a GED in Texas
• Resided in Texas for the three years leading to graduation
• Provided their institutions a signed affidavit indicating an intent to apply for permanent resident status as soon as able to do so
FEDERAL POLICIES: DACA EXECUTIVE ORDER

→ DACA granted eligible individuals a 2-year work permit, social security number, and protection from deportation.

→ 2020 first time applications are being admitted

→ Requirements:
  - Under age 31 as of 2012
  - Enter U.S. prior to age 16
  - At least 15 years old
  - Resided continuously since 2007
  - No criminal record
  - Education requirement (GED, high schools, enrolled in school)

Orgs in DFW
- North Texas Dream Team
- RAICES
- Catholic Charities
Q: How do these policies impact the work you do at your institution?
BEST PRACTICES
SUPPORTING DACA AND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS
**Ally**  - An ally supports and stands with an individual or group in a marginalized community.

**Accomplice**  - An accomplice focuses on dismantling the structures that oppress that individual or group.
AWARENESS

➔ Listen openly and do not make assumptions
➔ Be informed of resources and support at your institution
➔ Do not ask students to disclose their status
➔ Maintain confidentiality

Key Learning

Many students may hint at their status by naming the barriers they’re facing. Ex. I can’t work, can’t apply for a paid internship, I don’t have an ID, etc.
EXAMPLE: Approach conversations

Approach conversation with confidentiality

- Do not disclose identifying information of undocumented students information (i.e. emails, text, etc.)
- Withhold judgment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What not to say/do</th>
<th>What to say/do</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why don’t you just legalize?</td>
<td>Have you talked to an immigration attorney to find out if you have a pathway to adjusting your status? *Provide a list of vetted organization or mention immi.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you undocumented?</td>
<td>Do not ask families to self identify or assume someone’s immigration status. Let families identify on their own.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent all communication in English</td>
<td>Share information in multiple languages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
→ Be informed about state and federal policies that impact students’ access
→ Be informed of policies at your institution that may create barriers & opportunities for students
→ Know what local organizations in your community offer support and resources to undocumented students

**Key Learning**

Not all undocumented students have DACA or qualify for in-state tuition. You don’t have to have all the answers, create a network of support and reach out to others.
SKILLS

➔ Communicate that you are an ally and/accomplice for undocumented students
➔ Create an inclusive and safe space for students
➔ Constantly question if opportunities are open to all students regardless of immigration status

Key Learning

Thank students for trusting you by sharing something so personal. Offer to provide support or share resources and information about local immigrant orgs.
Group Activity:

You are approached by an freshman student, who disclosed they are undocumented. Given your role, share with your group how you would support the student?
PRACTICES

➔ Appreciate them
➔ Keep it confidential
➔ Give them resources & opportunities
➔ Build Relationships
➔ Reach out for support

Key Learning

Think about resources your institution provides to undocumented students
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM FOR IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

AS A CLASSROOM:
We will create a safe and inclusive space where all voices matter.
We will learn from each other and engage with an open mind.
We will use words to affirm each other.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS with resources for immigrant students and families:
Name:
Address:
Phone:
Rapid Response Network:
Rapid Response Number:
For more information and resources go to our accompanying resource:

DREAMERS WELCOME
 Become a welcoming campus by: opening a Dreamer’s Center, requiring training for staff and faculty, make resources available on your website.

 Support groups for immigrant students at your institution

 Expand resources and information about career opportunities for undocumented students
Texas Application for State Financial Aid

If you are not eligible to apply for federal financial aid, then you may be able to receive aid from the state. Use the chart below to determine if you are able to fill out the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) to be considered for state and institutional financial aid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</th>
<th>Texas Application for State Financial Aid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am a U.S. citizen</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a conditional permanent resident with visa type I-551C</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am an eligible non-citizen with an Arrival/Departure Record (I-94)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showing one of the following: Refugee, Asylum granted, Parolee (for a minimum of one year), Cuban-Haitian entrant.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not meet one of the statuses above; however, I have been classified as a Texas resident and therefore am eligible to pay the Texas in-state tuition rate. My classification as a Texas resident is NOT due to an in-state scholarship or assistantship.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The University of North Texas Admissions Office determines if students meet the state's requirements for Texas Residency. If you believe your residency should be reclassified, please contact the Admissions Office. You must be classified as a Texas resident in order to qualify for state and/or institutional student financial aid through the TASFA.

TASFA Application

https://financialaid.unt.edu/texas-application-state-financial-aid
If you will be taking classes for college credit:

**Step 1:** Complete the [admissions application](#).

**Step 2:** Complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)](#). You must be a U.S. citizen or [eligible noncitizen](#) to apply for federal aid. Read our [FAFSA overview](#) for some common questions and answers, plus helpful tips.

**If you are not a citizen** and therefore are not eligible for federal aid, you may still be eligible for Texas state aid if you are certified as [HB1403 eligible](#).

To apply for state aid as an HB1403-eligible noncitizen, you may either:

1. Print and complete the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA), available on the [College for all Texans](#) website. On this site, the form is available in both English and Spanish. If you are starting in the Fall 2020 or Spring 2021, you will complete the 2020-2021 TASFA. If you are starting in the Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022 semesters, you will complete the 2021-2022 TASFA.  
   or  
2. Pick up a TASFA from the college [Financial Aid Office](#), then fill it out and submit it.

It is best to have the [documents required](#) to complete the application and the [Title IV school code](#) for each college that you may attend before you start the FAFSA process.

The FAFSA is required for almost all financial aid programs offered by Dallas College, and most of the campus [Financial Aid Offices](#) provide computers and help with completing the FAFSA.
ACTIONS

1. ENGAGE WITH AN OPEN MIND
   Don’t make assumptions and work with students to find out answers

2. CREATE A SAFE SPACE
   Use inclusive language, post safe-space visuals, and share resources with all students
   - Inclusive Language
     - Undocumented
     - Immigrant
     - UndocuQueer
     - Mixed-Status Families
   - Words to Avoid
     - Illegal
     - Aliens

3. LEARN ABOUT RELEVANT INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES & LEGISLATION
   Understand local and federal policies that impact K-12 undocumented students and their families. Visit uleadnet.org

4. FIND & ADVOCATE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT
   Keep track of scholarships that don’t require citizenship or residency status with students

5. BUILD YOUR OWN EDUCATOR NETWORK
   Build relationships and collaborate with other educators who are supportive of undocumented students at your school or district

6. CONNECT STUDENTS TO UNDOCUMENTED COMMUNITY LEADERS & ROLE MODELS
   Attend immigration-related events and build a network of undocumented student leaders

7. INVOLVE PARENTS
   Share information and resources with parents by distributing Know Your Rights cards (order for free at immi.org/order), emergency plans (immi.org/home/make_a_plan), and college-access information

8. ACCESS REPUTABLE LEGAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
   Use immi.org to find reputable, affordable legal service providers in your area

9. BUILD AGENCY & POWER
   Inform students about their rights and share how other immigrant groups have organizing and changing the status quo

10. CREATE SPACES FOR STORYTELLING & CREATIVE EXPRESSION
    Encourage students to build their own meaning and sense of identity that is different from the negative stigma and stereotypes about undocumented immigrants
RESOURCES
Actively Informing All Students & Families

Dallas Area Resources

New Hope Immigration
www.newhopeims.org
3420 Broadway Blvd #125
Garland TX 75043
972.240.3030

Catholic Charities
www.ccdallas.org
1421 W Mockingbird Ln
Dallas, TX 75247
214.634.7182

RAICES
www.raicestexas.org/
1910 Pacific Ave, Dallas TX 75201
214.295.9554
Survey link: surveymonkey.com/r/MHGCZZX

Contact: Admin@immSchools.org or Lorena@immschools.org
THANK YOU!

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