
GREENDOT

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AB 540 Resource Guide

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Before Readings this Guide: Most of the resources found in this guide require you to click a header. By clicking the header of each section, you will be taken automatically to the online webpage where the content and information are found.

Background Leading to the AB540 California Law

History of AB540:

- **1985:** The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund argued *Plyler V. Doe* before the Supreme Court. This decision confirmed that the children of undocumented immigrants were protected under the 14th Amendment due-process clause to receive a public education.
- **1985-1991:** The outcome of *Leticia A V. UC Regents and California State University System* granted undocumented students the position to pay resident fees and qualify for state aid.
- **1991-1992:** Los Angeles Superior Court overturned the *Leticia A* ruling and immediately took away the right to pay resident fees and student aid opportunities.
- **1992-2001:** Undocumented students expected to pay non-resident fees and were ineligible for any type of state aid in all UCs, CSUs and community colleges.
- **October 12, 2001:** Governor Gray Davis signed AB540 into law. The law allows undocumented students to pay resident fees in public colleges and universities, as long as the student graduates from a California high school with at least three years of residency.
- **Present:** AB540 students and allies begin a state movement to pass the California Dream Act. Since AB540 does not provide Federal or state aid for undocumented students, the California Dream Network is established to bring together a body of students, educators and activists who are determined to see justice prevail in California.

For a detailed overview of the historical events that led to the approval of AB540, visit: “Materials for UC’s 2007 Counselor Conferences” powerpoint presentation titled, [Assisting Undocumented Students in Higher Education](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/educators/counselors/resources/materials/conferences.html).

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/educators/counselors/resources/materials/conferences.html>

AB540 Students Must Meet the Following Requirements:

- High school attendance in California for three or more years.
- Graduation from a California high school or attainment of the equivalent such as a GED.
- Register as an entering student at, or current enrollment at, an accredited institution of higher education in California: University of California, California State University and all community colleges.
- If the person is without a lawful immigration status, the student must complete an affidavit with the public college or university stating that the student has filed an application to legalize his or her immigration status, or will file an application as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.
- Student information provided to the college or university is confidential and protected by Federal law.

Notes:

Understanding AB 540 as a California Law

MALDEF AB540 Resource Page: The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund provides informative links and handouts that answer AB540 related questions, qualifications and student fee comparisons; offers a link to a copy of the law; and shares an easy to read powerpoint information guide. The resource links are available online in English and Spanish.

Immigrant Legal Resource Center: AB 540 Affidavit & Eligibility Form Instructions:

Instructions to complete the AB540 Affidavit document are provided by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center. One of the requirements included in California's AB540 law is for undocumented students to submit an affidavit. The affidavit, which is available at: (http://reg.ucsc.edu/students/residency/Enterable_AB540.pdf) requires each student to write in where the student went to high school and sign an agreement indicating that the AB540 student has/will apply for permanent residency in the United States. The privacy of the student's information is protected by Federal Law and is used specifically by the student's college institution.

University of California AB540 Tuition Exemption Resource:

The University of California collected a list of AB540 contacts available to assist the AB540 community at each of the 10 UC campuses. The resource also includes commonly asked questions by AB540 students and responses. The document is available by going to: http://www2.ucsc.edu/fin-aid/gen_forms&pubs/ab540%5B1%5D.pdf . A second resource is offered by the UC Office of the President and includes the steps taken by the University of California to adopt the AB540 law and questions they receive from students: http://www.ucop.edu/sas/sfs/docs/ab540_faqs.htm .

College Board: Advising Undocumented Students:

The College Board created a webpage that advises educators with helpful general facts that focus on the financial aid opportunities available for AB540 and undocumented students. The information is available at: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/financial-aid/undocumented-students>

FinAid: Financial Aid and Scholarships for Undocumented Students

FinAid, a very commonly used financial aid resource by financial aid counselors in public and private colleges, created an introductory fact sheet similar to the one published by the College Board. FinAid provides an easy to read overview of the admissions, financial aid and scholarship opportunities available for AB540 students as well as undocumented students. The information guide is available online and in print form at: <http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/undocumented.phtml>.

Questions & Conversation Script for AB540 Students

Although the Green Dot AB 540 guide is a great place to begin your college search, there are in fact many other private universities that assist AB 540 students. Therefore, use the following script and questions when you contact the financial aid office at various private colleges and universities.

Script:

- 1) If you're calling a private college or university, go the financial aid web page and research the student aid opportunities available at the institution.
- 2) Once you finish researching the universities webpage, call the financial aid office and use the following prompt to introduce yourself: *Hello, my name is _____ and I'm a _____ (frosh, soph...) at Animo _____ in Los Angeles. Can I please speak to a financial aid counselor that can tell me what financial aid opportunities your office has for undocumented students?*
- 3) Ask the financial aid counselor if the university/college offers the following student aid opportunities to AB540 applicants:
 - i. **Merit Based Scholarships:** These types of scholarships/grants are awarded by the admissions office to students who possess high academic achievement, great leadership skills, and if the student has a talent that is highly valued by a university.
 - ii. **Need Based Aid Scholarships:** Colleges and universities award students need based aid specifically to candidates whose parents don't have the money necessary to pay for tuition, room and board. Make sure to ask the university if they meet the student's full financial need.
 - iii. **Institutional Loans:** There are numerous private colleges and universities that provide AB540 students private loans managed by the university. Traditional Federal loans are not available to AB540 students, which is why private universities are working with students to provide a variety of options to pay the cost of attendance.
 - iv. **Alumni Association Scholarships:** Many private colleges and universities have alumni associations that fundraise scholarship opportunities for undocumented students.
- 4) Make sure to write down the information that is given to you and ask the financial aid counselor to clarify any terms or explanations that you don't understand during your phone conversation.

Helpful Questions and Procedures AB540 Students Should Ask Financial Aid Counselors

Procedures:

- As you begin the college application process with any college or university, make sure to purchase a journal/notebook to write down the following facts:
 - Notes, the names of counselors you speak with, the date the conversation took place, the contact information of the counselor and write down the feedback they provide over the phone.
- As you begin the college application process, make sure to establish a relationship with a financial aid/admissions counselor at each university.
- If the university or college is within the Los Angeles area, set a meeting with admissions and financial aid counselors to discuss your scholarship opportunities.
- As of August 2008, if you're admitted into a University of California or the California State University campus, you will not qualify for institutional financial aid given by the universities. Contact each financial aid office and ask them to connect you with organizations in the school that give AB 540 students scholarships (Exs: Latino Alumni Associations, student clubs and organizations, and local businesses).

Questions Admitted AB 540 students should ask financial aid advisors:

- Can you please refer me to your financial aid counselor that works with admitted Latino and undocumented students?
- Are you familiar with any scholarships given by the department in which I was admitted into? (Example of Majors: Political Science, Biology, Education, Art)
- Do you have scholarships given specifically to undocumented students?
- I'm aware that some colleges provide need based financial packages from the same pot of money to students born in Mexico, Canada and the United States, if I was born in a country outside of North America, what financial aid opportunities would I qualify to receive?
- Since I am unable to submit a FAFSA application, do you require any other financial aid forms, such as a CSS Profile, in order to verify my financial need?
- If my parents don't file their income taxes during the tax season, can I have them submit a copy of their W-2 pay stubs?
- If my parents don't file for income taxes and if their employer does not provide them a W-2 pay stub to show their annual earnings, what can I do to prove my financial need?

AB 540 Do's and Don'ts

Some Dos and Don'ts for AB540 Students when beginning to apply to college:

Do not/Dos:

- **Do not** focus specifically on applying only to the University of California or the California State University schools.
 - **Do** make sure you apply to a variety of private colleges and universities that provide AB540 students with need based financial aid opportunities. Contact your counselor for a full list of universities that support undocumented students.
- **Do not** submit a FAFSA application to the U.S. Department of Education.
 - **Do** make sure to send a paper FAFSA to a college or university for the specific use of the university financial aid office only. Contact the financial aid office and ask if they received the form. A few universities ask undocumented students to submit a paper FAFSA application in order to calculate the student's scholarship need.
- **Do not** use someone else's information as your own on any application. Using information that does not belong to you can get you and your family into legal problems.
 - **Do** contact a professional immigration lawyer from Catholic Charities or the Los Angeles County Bar Association if you are using information that is not yours, such as a relatives name or social security number.
- **Do not** wait until the last minute and expect to complete scholarship and admission applications a few days before the deadlines.
 - **Do** begin your application process as early as possible in order to avoid last minute complications such as lost letters of recommendation. Meet with your counselor in September to make a list of scholarships and universities that you must apply to in order to receive scholarship money.
- **Do not** limit yourself to one or two universities and AB540 scholarship applications.
 - **Do** apply to at least 5 private universities and 10 scholarships. Private application fees are expensive, but if you inform the admissions office that you are unable to pay for the fee, they will waive that cost. Understand that AB540 scholarships are competitive, which means that you must to apply to as many scholarships as possible.

AB 540 Advocacy, Allies & Campus Support Groups

Assembly Bill 540 reauthorized California's public colleges and universities to charge undocumented students in state student fees in 2001. As a result, AB540 students across California and allies created advocacy groups that were necessary to appropriately implement the AB540 law in state schools.

Groups like UCLA IDEAS, UC Santa Cruz SIN (Student Informing Now), Cal State Long Beach FUEL and East Los Angeles Community College SAHEE are now advocating for the rights of AB540 student as well as the California Dream Act.

The following organizations are near Animo High Schools and provide AB540 workshops for parents, educators and community organizers:

UCLA IDEAS:

Is an active force in the movement to pass the California and Federal Dream Acts. The organization offers AB540 students and allies a resourceful webpage with legislative updates, a contact list to ask for information workshops and scholarships. Anyone interested in working or contacting UCLA IDEAS can visit: <http://www.studentgroups.ucla.edu/ideas/index.html> for further information.

FUEL @ Cal State Long Beach: Elena Macias, Advisor for FUEL (562) 985-8816

As an AB540 advocacy and support group at Cal State Long Beach, FUEL seeks to support, inform and provide AB540 students with a network of support services. FUEL students are available to speak with high school youth and share their perspectives as allies AB 540 students enrolled a [CSU Long Beach](#). For more information contact Elena Macias but preferably email the student group at: fuelcsulb@yahoo.com

Cal Poly Pomona D.E. P.I.E:

Demanda Estudiantil Para Igualdad Estudiantil was founded at Cal Poly Pomona to support and advocate for the equal opportunities of students regardless of legal status. If you wish to contact DE PIE, direct any AB540 workshop and student leader contact information requests to Mery Hernandez, AB540 Student Advisor and university liason at Cal Poly Pomona: Phone (909) 869-2916 Email: mchernandez@csupomona.edu.

Cal State Dominguez Hills: Espiritu de Nuestro Futuro

Espiritu de Nuestro Futuro is a collaborative effort made by professors and students at Cal State Dominguez Hills to support and advocate for the equal higher education opportunities of all students. To get in contact with members of this organization and connect incoming CSUDH AB540 students to this network of services contact Dr. Irene Vazquez, Chair Chicana/o Studies Department at 310-243-3070.

Cal State Fullerton: Alliance of Students for Equal Education

ASEE at Cal State Fullerton provides a variety of community workshops to inform and support California AB540 students. The organization has a Myspace page that connects enrolling AB540 students to the many allies in the CSU Fullerton campus. To contact ASEE email them at: aseeofcsuf@yahoo.com or call Leticia directly at (714)321-5418.

Cal State Los Angeles

Students United to Reach Goals in Education Project, also known as SURGE, seeks to support and advise AB540 students by offering AB540 high school presentations, tabling in community events and are known for their "Cash for College AB540 Workshop." If you would like SURGE to present a workshop for your school, contact Yohana Hinojosa, Chairwoman of High School Presentations, via email at: yohanahinojosa@yahoo.com or at csula_surge@yahoo.com. Otherwise contact SURGE's advisor, Luz Borjon, who works as an EOP counselor for the university at lborjon@cslanet.calstatela.edu.

Cal State Northridge: Dreams To Be Heard

Marvin Villanueva is an academic coordinator that informs and supports AB540 students at CSU Northridge. Aside from providing academic support for the student population, Marvin also sits in the AB540 campus committee. To reach Marvin call: (818)677-4767. *Dreams to be Heard* is a new AB540 advocacy group at CSUN that also provides support for newly enrolled and returning AB540 students. To contact Dreams to be Heard, email them at dreamstobeheard@yahoo.com or visit their website at www.dreamstobeheard.com.

East Los Angeles College:

ELAC now has two valuable resources that seek to advise and inform AB540 students of the opportunities and support services available at the college. The admissions office at ELAC assigned Ana Salazar the AB540 Advisor role and can connect the community to the Student Empowerment Project (S.E.P). This student group creates awareness and supports the community by informing students of the support services available for AB540 and undocumented students. Contact Ana Salazar at (323) 415-4136 or email S.E.R at elac_ab540@yahoo.com.

UC Berkeley RISE:

The Rising Immigrant Scholars through Education, otherwise known as RISE, works with the Multicultural Student Development Center at UC Berkeley to promote various issues related to AB540 students. RISE advocates for the California Dream Act but specifically exists to support AB540 students and future AB540 prospective high school students. Email: brenda@uclink.berkeley.edu or call Phone: 510.642.1802

UC Davis SPEAK :

The student body at UC Davis is actively seeking to assist AB540 students by providing scholarship opportunities and connecting newly admitted students to campus centers like the Student Recruitment & Retention Center for Chicano/a Latino/a students. La Raza Pre-Law Society and Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority offer an annual \$1000.00 scholarship for the AB540 community and SPEAK is also able to direct AB540 students to other local scholarship

opportunities. To find these groups, the Chicano/a Studies Department website includes a link that directs AB540 newly admitted students to student groups like SPEAK. Also, a helpful mentor and guide at UC Davis is Joaquin Galvan, Counselor for Latino/a and Chicano/a students. Contact Joaquin by email (jdgalvan@ucdavis.edu) or by phone (530) 752-2032.

UC Santa Cruz SIN- Students Informing Now:

SIN at UC Santa Cruz was started by AB540 students and allies after noticing that the campus lacked the training to assist the many needs of the AB540 student population. SIN currently works with a network of educators and student activists to make UC Santa Cruz AB540 friendly. SIN leads community workshops and brings together a community that is willing to assist AB540 students in any way possible. To contact SIN, send them an email to sin_ucsc@yahoo.com or contact the designated AB540 EOP counselor, Eric Gabriel, by calling (831) 459-4398.

Notes:

Best Practices for Counseling Undocumented AB 540 Students¹

Futuros Educational Services

- 1) Assist students with completion of college admission application fee-waivers.
 - Undocumented students ARE NOT eligible for CSU application fee-waivers.
 - Undocumented students ARE eligible for UC application fee-waivers.
 - Undocumented student eligibility for private college/university application fee-waivers is on a campus-by-campus basis. CONTACT EACH CAMPUS the student is interested in attending to find out.

- 2) Assist students with completion of college admission applications.
 - Undocumented AB 540 students often require assistance completing residency questions included in college admission applications.
 - If you are unable to assist the student, refer them to an AB 540 knowledgeable representative from the college they wish to apply to.
 - Develop relationships with schools and contacts for advice.

- 3) Assist students with lists of scholarships that do not require legal permanent residency, U.S. citizenship, and/or a social security number.
 - Many private scholarships require proof of citizenship/legal residency, which makes undocumented students ineligible.
 - Undocumented AB 540 students often require assistance with researching and successfully finding scholarships that they are eligible for.

- 4) Assist students with finding alternative options for funding their education.
 - Many undocumented AB 540 students are finding creative ways to fund their education.
 - Students may consider approaching friends, neighbors, family members, teachers, local businesses, and large companies to request financial support for their college education.
 - Students may consider working together to hold fundraisers to help undocumented AB 540 students pay for college.

- 5) Assist students with determining whether or not to complete a FAFSA.
 - ONLY undocumented students with residency paperwork “in process” should complete a FAFSA. If they have filed paperwork then the government is aware of their presence in the U.S. and the student is not at risk for deportation.
 - Undocumented students without residency paperwork “in process” SHOULD NOT complete a FAFSA. For these students, submitting a FAFSA to the federal government can put them at risk for deportation. Some undocumented students have been placed into deportation proceedings after submitting a FAFSA.

¹ This section of the guide was graciously provided by Futuros Educational Services

- 6) When providing workshops or informational sessions on higher education, include information on AB 540 and opportunities available to undocumented immigrant students.
- Provide AB 540 trainings to counselors, teachers and staff
 - Inform parents about the post-secondary options available to their students
 - Although most information is being presented to high school students, starting at the elementary and middle school levels will increase awareness about college opportunities for all students

CALIFORNIA STATE AB 540 SUPPORT GROUPS

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (CCC)

- Glendale Community College - Voces del Mañana
 - e-mail: ydanzer1@yahoo.com
- Oxnard College - EOPS
 - <http://www.oxnardcollege.edu/studentervices/extendedopp/index.asp>
- Riverside Community College - MEChA
 - e-mail: mechadercc@yahoo.com
- Santa Barbara City College - Cal SOAP
 - <http://www.sbcalsoap.org/resources.htm>
- Santa Monica College - Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) or EOPS
 - <http://www.smc.edu/eops>

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU)

- Cal Poly Pomona – Demanda estudiantil para Igualdad Educacional (De Pie)
 - Depie_calpolypomona@yahoo.com
- CSU Dominguez Hills - Espiritu de Nuestro Futuro
 - e-mail: espiritudenuestrofuturo@yahoo.com
- CSU Los Angeles - Students United to Reach Goals in Education Project
 - http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/csula_surge or csula_surge@yahoo.com
- San Jose State University - Student Advocates for Higher Education (SAHE)
 - <http://www.geocities.com/ab540students>
- Chico State
 - chicostateequaleducation@yahoo.com

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC)

- UC Berkeley - Rising Immigrant Scholars through Education (RISE)
 - brenda@uclink.berkeley.edu
- UC Davis - Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS)
 - e-mail: ucdequaleducation@yahoo.com
- UC Irvine - Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS)
 - e-mail:
- UC Los Angeles - Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS)
 - <http://www.studentgroups.ucla.edu/ideas>
- UC San Diego
 - glima@ucsd.edu
- UC Santa Barbara - Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success (IDEAS)
 - e-mail: ideasatucsb@yahoo.com
- UC Santa Cruz - Students Informing Now (SIN) Verguenza
 - e-mail: porlacausedelosestudiantes@yahoo.com

Low Cost Immigration Processing

Due to liability conflicts, Green Dot Public Schools is unable to recommend legal immigration practitioners. We understand that legal services are costly for low-income families. Therefore, contact the Los Angeles County Bar Association or Catholic Charities-Los Angeles for low-cost legal assistance. Contact these agencies in order to help your student complete the legalization process before they begin their college education.

[Los Angeles County Bar Association:](#)

LACBA is dedicated to serve and help the community gain access to a variety of legal services in Los Angeles. Families seeking immigration legal assistance are given the guidance to complete immigration forms, and are offered low cost consultations. For more information, call the LACBA Immigration Legal Assistance Project at: (213) 485-1872. Consult the LACBA in order to help your student begin the legalization process.

[Catholic Charities-Los Angeles:](#)

Catholic Charities operates two centers that serve the communities surrounding the Animo High Schools in Los Angeles. Catholic Charities hosts a variety of low cost services to help low-income families by providing classes in English and for the U.S. Naturalization Exam. Click on the link above to contact the Los Angeles and Inglewood locations. Services available in these centers include and are not limited to translations assistance, immigration processing sessions, citizenship classes and a variety of educational workshops. All members in the community from different faiths are welcome to contact the centers.

Servicios Legales:

Por conflictos de leabilidad, las escuelas públicas Green Dot se limitan en recomendar abogados de inmigración. Entendemos que el costo de un abogado de inmigración es costoso, por esta razón recomendamos que nuestras familias de bajos recursos se comuniquen con la Asociación de la Barra del Condado de Los Ángeles o el grupo Caridades Publicas (mejor conocida en Ingles como Catholic Charities).

[La Asociación del la Barra del Condado de Los Ángeles:](#)

Mejor conocida como LACBA, la Asociación de la Barra del Condado de Los Ángeles ofrece una variedad de servicios legales a un bajo costo para familias de bajos recursos. La organización esta aliada con abogados de inmigración que asisten a las familias de Los Ángeles al ofrecer consultas de inmigración y llenar formas para legalizar a personas que residen en Los Ángeles. Consulte a LACBA para que le ofrezcan la información necesaria para comenzar el proceso de legalización si es posible.

[Catholic Charities/Caridades Católicas:](#)

Caridades Católicas mantiene dos centros comunitarios a poca distancia de las escuelas Animo. Los centros ofrecen una variedad de programas y servicios a un bajo costo. Los programas incluyen clases en Ingles y cursos de ciudadanía, traducciones, servicios de inmigración, y talleres educativos. Los centros apoyan a todas las personas que necesiten asistencia sin importar la religión.

California Dream Information

Puntos Informativos Sobre:

El Acto de Elegibilidad de Ayuda Económica para Estudiantes (AB2083) y



El Acto del Sueño de California (SB1301) y el Acto Elegibilidad de Ayuda Económica para Estudiantes (AB2083) son dos propuestas legislativas del estado que le brindara acceso a estudiantes ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos y estudiantes que clasifican dentro la ley AB540 a las becas disponibles en las universidades y colegios públicos de California, sin tener que entregar una Aplicación Federal para la Ayuda Económica de Estudiantes.

Resumen

La Oficina del Censo de los Estados Unidos estima que en el año 2000, aproximadamente 2.5 millones de jóvenes menores de los dieciocho años, residen dentro el país Americano. [Además, aproximadamente 65,000 estudiantes indocumentados se gradúan de secundarias el los Estados Unidos cada año. Dentro de este numero, se dice que 40 por ciento, o 26,000 alumnos indocumentados residen el en estado de California. (Centro de Hispanos Pew).] Muchos estudiantes indocumentados están en cursos avanzados, son atletas, sobresalen como lideres dentro su comunidad, y aspiran a ser profesionales, pero su estado inmigratorio les perjudica la oportunidad de obtener estudios superiores.

Las Estadísticas

La población en California supera 37, 172,015 personas de las cuales:

- 39.7% de los obreros en California son Latinos nacidos en el extranjero. (3 Millones)²
- <1% (13,000) de los estudiantes Californianos en el colegio son indocumentados³
- Del 1% de estudiantes indocumentados en la Universidad de California, 45-52% son Latinos y 40-44% son asiáticos.⁴

Demográficamente, California es⁵:

44.4% Anglosajón	34.9% Latino/Hispano	11.9% Asiático
6.4% Afro-americano	0.4% Hawaiano	0.3% Nativo de Alaska

Cual es el Problema?

Actualmente, los graduados de las escuelas secundarias en California, que son elegibles para pagar tarifas de residentes bajo la ley AB540, y que son aceptados a una universidad pública no tienen acceso a los estudios superiores. Estos estudiantes enfrentan grandiosos obstáculos financieros porque no pueden aplicar para la asistencia de becas ofrecidas por el gobierno

² California Demographic Futures-Dowell Myers, John Pilkin, Julie Park. February 2005.

³ Illegal-immigrant students pin hopes on reform- San Bernardino Sun 5/21/7

⁴ UC Office of the President

⁵ State Department of Finance, current population survey

federal, el gobierno estatal y por las becas que dan las universidades publicas. En fin, el 1% de estudiantes invierten en la universidades publicas de California no pueden aplicar para recibir becas fundadas por su propio dinero.

Que es un estudiante “AB540”?

Los estudiantes “AB 540” son alumnos que califican para pagar tarifas de residentes en las universidades y colegios públicos de California (El Código de Educación de California 68130.5). Bajo la ley estatal AB540, no importa el estado legal del estudiante. Siempre y cuando un alumno asista a una escuela secundaria en el estado de California y se gradué de una escuela secundaria en California, los que califican pagan tarifas de residentes en la Universidad de California, las Universidades Estatales de California, y los colegios comunitarios públicos. Si el alumno es indocumentado, también deben llenar una declaración jurada con la universidad o el colegio, indicando que ya aplicaron o que procesaran los formularios de inmigración al instante que sean elegibles. De todos los estudiantes AB540 en la Universidad de California, solo un 5% de los alumnos son indocumentados.

Que cambios formara el Acto del Sueño/Acto de Elegibilidad de Ayuda Económica para Estudiantes?

Asistencia de Becas Institucionales: SB 1301/AB 2083 hará que los estudiantes AB540 apliquen y compitan por las becas institucionales que son administradas por los colegios o las universidades publicas (Ej. Dinero de la Universidad Estatal y de la Universidad de California, becas, y programas de préstamos).

Situación Política

Después de que el Gobernador Schwarzenegger veto el Acto del Sueño, SB 160, en el 2005, los estudiantes formaron una presencia notable y la ley fue reintroducida. Aunque el gobernador vetó la ultima versión del Acto del Sueño en el 2007, la propuesta recibió la aprobación de la mayoría de la legislatura. La legislatura no se dejo vencer, lo que motivo al Senador Gil Cedillo y al miembro de la Asamblea Fabián Núñez a promover el nuevo Acto de Sueño de California, SB 1301, y el Acto de Elegibilidad de Ayuda Económica para Estudiantes, AB2083, en el 2007. Las dos propuestas, aunque se distinguen un poco, tienen la meta de ayudar a los alumnos que no tienen las mismas oportuntades de asistir a la universidad de sus sueños.

Ahora, con una gran coalición de estudiantes, la juventud, grupos religiosos, las Cámaras de Comercio, el sector se labor, y los grupos comunitarios, la campana a favor del Acto del Sueño continuara promoviendo la ley para que pase en Septiembre 2008.

Para obtener mas información comuníquese con:

www.cadreamact.org

Power and Unity Coalition:

PowerPac-Ana I. Grande (323) 363-7486 o ana@powerpac.org

CHIRLA-Maria Rodríguez (213) 353-1333 mrodriguez@chirla.org

AB 540 Aid Friendly Private Colleges & Universities⁶:

Animo, el estudio universitario esta en tus manos!

To Our Students, Parents & Educators:

AB 540 students are enrolled in universities across the State of California—from UC Berkeley, UCLA, Cal State Los Angeles and Cal Poly Pomona to name a few—as well as private colleges and universities across the US like Harvard, Beloit College, Occidental College, Claremont McKenna College and Loyola Marymount University.

There are numerous private colleges and universities that meet the full financial need of undocumented students. Take a look at the colleges we included in this list and if you are aware of any other colleges that support AB540 students, make sure to notify Janneth Johnson by calling the Green Dot main office at (213) 621-0276.

Best of luck and be aware that higher education is an option for all high school students.

We believe in you,

Green Dot External & Government Affairs Team

Private College & University All-star AB 540 Friendly Institutions

California Colleges & Universities

[Stanford University](#)

[Pomona College:](#)

[Scripps College](#)

[Pitzer College](#)

[Claremont McKenna College:](#)

[Harvey Mudd College](#)

[Occidental College](#)

[Santa Clara University](#)

[Loyola Marymount University](#) & [LMU Mexican-American Alumni Association \(MAAA\)](#)

⁶ Last updated August 2008. If you find any new grant opportunities at a college or university for AB 540 students please contact the Green Dot Public Schools Office of External & Government Affairs.

[California Lutheran University](#)

[Mills College](#)

[Fresno Pacific University](#)

[National Hispanic University:](#)

Midwest/East Coast Colleges & Universities

[Harvard University](#)

[Yale University](#)

[Princeton University](#)

[Brown University](#)

[Dartmouth](#)

[Bowdoin College](#)

[Beloit College \(Wisconsin\)](#)

[Bryn Mawr College](#)

[Whitman College](#)

[Berea College](#)

[University of Rochester](#)

[Wesleyan University](#)

[Swarthmore College](#)

[Albion College](#)

[Amherst College](#)

[Columbia University](#)

[University of Chicago](#)

[Brandeis University](#)

[Cornell University](#)

[Georgetown University](#)

[University of Pennsylvania](#)

Private College & University Partnerships

[Association of Jesuit Colleges & Universities](#)

[Colleges That Change Lives:](#) www.ctcl.com

[The Claremont College Consortium](#)

[Robertson Scholars Program:](#) The University of North Carolina & Duke University

Public University Student-Fee Assistance Opportunities

[California State University, Los Angeles](#)

[California State University, Long Beach-](#) President's Scholars Program

[Cal Poly Pomona-](#) Dream & Hilda Solis Scholarships

[University of California Berkeley:](#) California Alumni Association Scholarships

AB 540 Scholarship Resource Guides

Animo, el financiamiento de tus estudios universitarios esta en tus manos!

To Our Students, Parents & Educators:

Student fees in California's public colleges and universities each vary by institution:

- Annual Junior College/Community College Fees: \$700
- California State University Fees: \$4000
- University of California Fees: \$7542

The main reason why most AB540 students are unable to enroll into the Cal State or University of California school systems is because they don't apply to the numerous AB540 scholarship opportunities.

As a result, we put together a broad list of resources that you can personally contact or apply to for scholarships.



Scholarship Resources

[Mexican-American Legal Defense & Education Fund:](#)

The Mexican-American Legal Defense & Education Fund gathered numerous scholarship opportunities available across the US and compiled the results into a helpful resource guide. The awards in the guide specifically mention whether or not each award applies to AB 540 youth. Scholarships available on the list are mainly monetary awards, however, one scholarship pays for the cost of air travel.

*"We believe, that is, you and I, that education is not an expense. We believe it is an investment."
- Lyndon B. Johnson, October 16, 1968*

[Salvadorian American Leadership Education Fund:](#)

SALEF, known as the Salvadorian American Leadership and Education Fund, awards a variety of scholarships specifically for Latino and Salvadorian American youth preparing to enroll into a college after high school. AB 540 students are eligible for the scholarship opportunities that range between \$500-\$2500 and are eligible for the following awards:

- **Health Career Scholarship**
- **Two Nineteen Scholarships** are specifically for **AB540** students attending a Community College in California. These scholarships are renewable as long as recipients maintain a minimum GPA.
- **Community Service Four-Year Scholarship** provides financial assistance to selected scholars for four consecutive years, as long as they maintain a 3.0 GPA. Four-year scholars are selected from the current years' awardees. No additional application required.

Father Rutilio Grande Scholarship is specifically offered to students interested in the fields of Theology, Philosophy, Religious studies and/or an emphasis in Cultural Studies, Environmental Studies or Social Justice.

[A.R.E Scholarship Fund for Undocumented Students:](#)

The Association of Raza Educators Scholarship was established to assist graduating AB540 and undocumented students from low income families. The scholarship is specifically for LAUSD or surrounding Charter School students in Los Angeles.

[Latino College Dollars:](#)

The Tomas Rivera Policy Institute and a group of sponsors published a national scholarship resource guide for AB 540 students as well for US residents and U.S Citizens. The PDF resource guide breaks down the award opportunities into various student categories. However, the Latino College Dollars website allows students to include general personal information in order to retrieve a roster of scholarships opportunities. The PDF resource guide also provides brief descriptions of the financial aid opportunities available in the U.S system of higher education for students, parents and educators.

[Paying for College Student Resource Guide:](#)

By courtesy of US Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, this helpful resource includes scholarship, internship, fellowships, books and website resources that assist students with the process of paying and enrolling into college. The resource guide includes fewer than ten scholarship opportunities for AB 540 students and updates are made annually to make sure students have access to the latest services available to varied student populations.

[Scholarships for Hispanics:](#)

Scholarships for Hispanics was launched to promote Latinos professional interests in the field of publishing. This web resource has grown and now includes scholarship resources for Latinos interested in a variety of majors. Keep in mind that you are asked by the website to make a log in name and password. This log in name allows you to see the scholarship opportunities available for AB 540 students as well as US Citizens and residents.

[Futuros Educational Services: Scholarship List](#)

In addition to providing AB 540 college consulting services and workshops, the [Futuros Educational Services](#) network provides a scholarship resource guide last updated in 2006.

[Fast Web Scholarships:](#)

Fast Web allows AB 540 students to search for scholarship opportunities by answering a short list of questions. The student is presented with a list of eligible scholarship opportunities and deadlines.

Student Loan Service

[GreenNote Peer-to-Peer Loans:](#)

GreenNote is an innovative new company that was built to help students obtain loans for education via social networking rather than through traditional lending methods.

Using the GreenNote online platform, students connect with their social network—friends, family, friends of family, community leaders and others—to ask for small student loans. GreenNote helps formalize everything into legally binding loans and handles all the details from loan documentation to repayment plans.

The benefits are significant. Students gain access to low-cost loans, currently at **6.8%** compared to private lending alternatives that typically range from 8.5% to 20%. The lenders also earn a return on their money while helping a student get an education.

Support Services

[The College & Financial Aid Guide for: AB540 Undocumented Immigrant Students](#)

The University of Southern California Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis along with a group of scholars and AB 540 advocacy organizations arranged a financial aid guide for students, parents and educators. This guide was the first of its kind and is easily accessible in Spanish and English. Counselors and educators should reference the guide in order to advise and guide students as they begin their high school college plans.

[Futuros Educational Services:](#)

College advising is the primary purpose of **Futuros**. The organization advises low-income and AB 540 students on the various actions youth must take in order to prepare for college. The services offered by Futuros guide the students through the application process and helps them apply for financial aid. The objective is to make sure that students lacking college readiness resources are college-ready and successfully navigate through higher education process. Futuros also understands the difficulty AB 540 students face to find money for college. AB 540 students are guided through the process of developing an academic portfolio used to solicit donations from private donors. Paz Olivarez is the founder of Futuros. You can contact Paz to have her volunteers provide AB540 support services to your counselors and educators.

[CHIRLA \(Coalition for Humane Immigration Rights of Los Angeles:](#)

CHIRLA works directly with public college and university student groups that advocate for AB 540 youth. The list is available by visiting: <http://www.chirla.org/CADREAMNetwork>. CHIRLA also provides community workshops that discuss the AB540 law, how to prepare AB540 students for college and strategies to find financial resources for college.

[Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund:](#) AB 540 Workshops

MALDEF is one of the country's leading public interest groups that advocates greatly for AB540 students by presenting workshops to community organizations. In order to request a workshop for your students and parents, feel free to contact Bilma Moreno in the Los Angeles office at 213-629-2512.