

## Undocumented Student Terminology/Glossary created by Education Without Borders (EWB) at San Diego State University



**Advanced Parole:** “If USCIS has decided to defer action in your case and you want to travel outside the United States, you must apply for advance parole by filing a Form I-131, Application for Travel Document and paying the applicable fee (\$360). USCIS will determine whether your purpose for international travel is justifiable based on the circumstances you describe in your request. Generally, USCIS will only grant advance parole if you are traveling for *humanitarian purposes, educational purposes, or employment purposes.*”  
(americasvoice.org/)

**An undocumented student:** is a foreign national who: (1) entered the United States without inspection or with fraudulent documents; (2) entered legally as a nonimmigrant but then violated the terms of his/her status and remained in the U.S. without authorization (www.nilc.org).

**Assembly Bill 130 (AB 130):** allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to apply for and receive private scholarships for public colleges and universities. (www.ilrc.org)

**Assembly Bill 131 (AB 131):** allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to apply for and receive state-funded financial aid such as institutional grants, community college fee waivers, Cal Grants and Chafee Grant. (www.ilrc.org)

**Assembly Bill 540 (AB 540):** California state law passed in 2001. It allows eligible students to pay in-state tuition at: CA Community Colleges, CA State Universities (CSUs), and Universities of CA (UCs). The requirements are:

- (a) attended a CA high school for a minimum of 3 years
- (b) graduated from a CA high school or attained the equivalent (GED or CA High School Proficiency Exam)
- (c) student who is without lawful immigration status must file an affidavit also known as Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request, with the college or university stating that he/she has filed an application to legalize his/her immigration status, or will file an application as soon as he/she is eligible to do so. (All information stays confidential between you and the college/university). (www.ilrc.org)

**California Dream Act:** CA state law passed in 2011 and consists of three Assembly Bills, AB 540, AB 130 and AB 131. Together, these bills allow undocumented and nonresident documented students who meet certain provisions to be treated the same as resident students and pay the resident fees at public colleges and universities, apply for and receive private scholarships funded through public universities, state-administered financial aid, university grants, community college fee waivers and Cal Grants. Student must complete and submit the CA Dream Act Application between January and March 2. (www.csac.ca.gov)

**Cal Grant:** money for college you don't have to pay back and there are 2 kinds—A and B. To qualify, you must meet the eligibility, financial requirements, and minimum GPA requirements. It can be used at any UC, CSU, independent, career, or technical school in CA. (www.csac.ca.gov)

Disclaimer: Some specific examples mentioned are related to the campus of the organization that created this document. For other campuses, applicant must conduct your own research.

**California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request:** form to request in-state tuition. Student must also submit proof of high school attendance and graduation (or its equivalent) to the Admissions Office or Office of the Registrar at your institution. ([www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org))

**Chafee Grant:** free money for current or former California foster youth to help pay for college or career and technical training. You may also use your grant to pay for child care, rent, and transportation while you are in school. (<http://www.csac.ca.gov>)

**Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** is a policy (not law) from the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced by the Obama Administration on June 15, 2012. It defers the removal of certain eligible undocumented youths and allow them to apply for work authorization if they are granted DACA. The requirements are: were under the age of 31 as of 06/15/2012; entered the United States before age 16; have continuously resided in the country since 06/15/2007, up to the present time; physical presence in the US on 6/15/12; entry without inspection or lawful immigration status expired as of 6/15/12; are currently in school, graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, obtained a GED certificate, or are an honorable discharged veteran of the Armed Forces/Coast Guard; have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, 3 or more other misdemeanors, and do not pose a threat to national security or public safety. ([www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org))

**DACAmented:** a person who has been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

**Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM ACT):** proposed federal law that has not yet passed, first introduced in 2001 and then in 2009. It would legalize the status of undocumented youth. Proposed benefits have included lawful conditional residency that may lead to lawful permanent residency and citizenship. ([www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org))

**DREAMer:** an American undocumented youth

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC):** a measure of your family's financial strength and is calculated according to a formula established by law. Your family's taxed and untaxed income, assets, benefits (i.e. unemployment, Social Security), family size, and the number of family members who will attend college during the year are all considered in the formula. Your EFC is NOT the amount of money your family will have to pay for college NOR is it the amount of financial aid you will receive, it is a number used by your school to calculate the amount of financial aid you are eligible to receive. ([fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov))

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):** application used by the U.S. Department of Education to determine your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) by conducting a "need analysis" based on financial information, such as income, assets, and other household information, which you and your parents (if you are dependent) will be asked to provide. The results are electronically transmitted to the financial aid offices of the schools that you list on your application. (<http://www.fafsa.com>)

**Installment Plan:** Basic tuition and fees due for the semester may be paid in installments. There is a \$60 nonrefundable service charge to use the plan which is paid prior to registration, along with an initial payment of \$800. (<http://bfa.sdsu.edu/fm/co/cashiers/installment.html>)

**Intent to Enroll:** at SDSU it means reserving your place for fall semester by submitting all of the required items to the SDSU Office of Admissions no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>. If all of the items are not postmarked by May 1, it will be assumed that you do not plan to attend SDSU and your space will be made available to another applicant.

**Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITN):** a tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service and are issued regardless of immigration status are used for federal tax reporting only, and are not intended to serve any other purpose. (<http://www.irs.gov/>)

**Residency:** at SDSU, the correct residency classification for each student must be determined in order to assess appropriate fees. It is established at the time you apply to campus, therefore, it is important to answer residency questions honestly. Self-identify if you truly are AB 540. Keep copies of everything. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Office of the Registrar of any changes in residency status. This includes changes from nonresident to resident and from resident to nonresident.

**Self-Identify:** your immigration status is not explicitly known by the institution you are applying to. If you are eligible for AB 540 status, you must contact the Office of Admissions in order to fill out the proper documentation (California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request) to be able to receive AB 540 services and such. Your information remains confidential.

**Senate Bill 1210 (SB 1210):** signed on Sept 27, 2014, the bill establishes the CA DREAM Loan program for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their status ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

**Social Security Number (SSN):** nine digit number used to get a job, collect Social Security benefits and receive some other government services.

**State University Grant (SUG):** provides need-based awards to cover a portion of the State Tuition Fee for eligible undergraduate, graduate, and post baccalaureate students who are California residents or are otherwise determined as eligible (i.e. AB 540). SUG may be awarded to eligible students who apply for financial aid by March 2, who have an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$4,000 or less, and who are not receiving a Cal Grant or other award designated to cover fees. Funding for the program is limited and students must reapply for consideration every year. ([www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu))

**Freshmen Academic Success Track (FAST) Program:** All California resident first-time freshmen admitted to SDSU who have remediation needs in English or mathematics will be required to enroll in the FAST program in the summer prior to fall enrollment. It is mandatory and offered from early July to mid-August; please make your summer plans accordingly. (<http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissions/programs.html>)

**Educational Opportunity Program (EOP):** a retention program that provides support for low-income, educationally disadvantaged students throughout their entire SDSU experience. Qualifying California residents and AB 540 students receive support in their transition from high school to SDSU or community college to SDSU, academic advising and personal counseling, free tutoring, student-to-student mentoring, and an EOP grant (depending upon financial eligibility). (<http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissions/programs.html>)

**Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS):** is a state funded program in the California Community Colleges designed to provide counseling, retention and support services to increase college

enrollment for those individuals who have previously not considered college as an option. EOPS strives to alleviate the educational barriers that preclude many students from college attendance.

([www.sdmesa.edu/students/services/eops-care/](http://www.sdmesa.edu/students/services/eops-care/)) Each EOPS varies.

**First Contact:** a FREE and mandatory orientation to the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). It is designed for all newly admitted SDSU/EOP students (first-time freshmen and community college transfers) and should not be confused with SDSU's New Student Orientation. ([sdsu.edu/eop/](http://sdsu.edu/eop/))

**New Student Orientation:** designed to reach all new, incoming admitted SDSU students. It provides overview of campus policies, structure, etc.

### RESOURCES/PEOPLE to SEEK

**Education without Borders (EWB) at SDSU:** We are a student organization that aims to support undocumented and other marginalized students by providing resources to network such as community service, social events, fundraisers, and other leadership opportunities.

**I.D.E.A.S.:** is a support network for undocumented (AB540) and ally students, connected by shared experiences, struggles, and successes.

**Suggestions:**

Know relevant policies and legislation

Find scholarships

Build support network (financial aid, admissions, academics, etc.)

Identify role models

Involve parents/guardians

Find legal information and assistance

