Serving Undocumented Students in the College-Going Process

December 14, 2021
Welcome!

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Assistant Director for Network Partnerships

Florida College Access Network
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@kathy_mcdonald
Questions & Conversation

• Submit your questions in the box

• Share on social media
  Twitter: @FLCollegeAccess
  #FCAN
  #TalentStrongFL

This webinar is being recorded; all materials will be available within a week of recording
**Our mission:**
We lead the collaborative movement to ensure every Floridian achieves an education beyond high school and a rewarding career.

**Our vision:**
A Florida working together, where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.
FCAN’s Work

Research and Data FCAN publishes research and data on evidence-based practices and policy opportunities to strengthen Florida’s talent pool.

Local college access networks (LCANs) LCANs support 82% of the state’s population. These organizations are made up of community leaders who come together to create solutions and partnerships to support local talent development.

Statewide Initiatives FCAN coordinates 4 College Ready Florida initiatives that provides schools and community organizations resources to help students continue their education after high school.
7 Conditions for Success

**Opportunity for everyone:** To build a talent-strong economy, all Floridians need access to a postsecondary education and the supports to complete it.

**Clear information and guidance:** Students and families need exposure and counseling early and often to make informed decisions about their futures.

**Affordable:** Postsecondary education needs to be within everyone’s financial reach, regardless of household income or life circumstances.

**Multiple pathways to success:** Floridians benefit from multiple learning opportunities for academic achievement and career advancement.

**Lifelong learning:** No degree or credential is “one and done;” Floridians need to prepare for career changes through continuous learning.

**Effective use of data:** Transparent access to data on education and economic outcomes, especially for Florida’s diverse populations, helps achieve our goals.

**Community collaboration:** When community partners work together toward a shared vision, they remove barriers, build a robust workforce, and improve the quality of life for their regions.
Introduction
Guest presenter

Luz Corcuera
Executive Director

UnidosNow
Mission Statement

To elevate the quality of life of the growing Hispanic/Latino community through education, integration, and civic engagement.
Undocumented and DACA-Eligible Students in Postsecondary Education

454,000
Undocumented Students

216,000
DACA-Eligible Students

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2018
American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.
Who is an undocumented student?

● (1) entered the U.S without inspection or with fraudulent documents

● OR

(2) entered legally as a nonimmigrant but overstayed.
Were brought to the U.S. before the age of 16.
Lack lawful immigration status.

Bill aimed to provide permanent relief to DREAMers.
It hasn’t become a law yet.

Executive order signed.
Provides DREAMers relief from deportation.
Temporary social security number and work permit.
No path to citizenship.

Granted to eligible nationals of certain countries or parts of countries.
Cannot be detained by DHS based on their immigration status.
No path to citizenship.
Many college-bound undocumented/DACA/TPS students...

- Have lived in the US most of their lives
- Have been brought to the U.S. by their parents at a young age
- Learned English and identify themselves as Americans
- Attended elementary, middle, and high school in the U.S.
Steps Students Can Take When Applying

- Research different schools (visit websites such as College Greenlight)
  - Prioritize undocumented/DACA/TPS friendly schools
  - Selective private schools may meet 100% or a high percentage of a student’s financial needs.

- Apply to fly-in programs.

- Keep up with immigration news that may change the available options.

- Don’t underestimate demonstrated interest.
Steps Students Can Take When Applying

- Some colleges may consider undocumented students as international students.
  - Higher cost of tuition
  - TOEFL

If the student has attended a high school in Florida for 3 consecutive years immediately before graduating from a high school in FL

and the student applies for enrollment at a FL institution of higher education within 24 months after high school graduation

THEN

The student can request an out-of-state tuition fee waiver.
Contact the school’s financial aid office to see what they need
   ○ Students may be asked to complete the CSS profile.

Students are not eligible for federal or state financial aid
   ○ Bright Futures, FAFSA, most scholarships from public universities.

If the student has a social security number, they CAN fill out the FAFSA to receive a report, but they will not be eligible for federal financial aid.

Students may look into local foundations, undocumented/DACA/TPS specific scholarships, sponsors, private scholarships, LEDA Scholars, and QuestBridge.
# CASE STUDY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT Test Score (1-4)</td>
<td>21 No test prep, no study time due to work schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular Activity (1-4)</td>
<td>NA Limited school or community engagement; works 40 hrs/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades/Unweighted GPA (1-4)</td>
<td>3.9 9 AP classes, including 4 in senior year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness – Essay (1-4)</td>
<td>NA Came to country 7 yrs ago, works to support family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations (1-4)</td>
<td>NA Good grades but limited school involvement or teacher interaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (0.1-0.4)</td>
<td>NA Seeking asylum, no savings, no government aid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Less Selective</th>
<th>Somewhat Selective</th>
<th>Very Selective</th>
<th>Most Selective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0-1.3</td>
<td>1.4-1.6</td>
<td>1.7-1.9</td>
<td>2.0-2.3</td>
<td>2.4-2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likely</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Reach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# CASE STUDY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Value</th>
<th>Current Score</th>
<th>Target Value</th>
<th>Target Score</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scores (1-4)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Take ACT test prep with UnidosNow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular Activity (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Get involved in the UnidosNow club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades/Unweighted GPA (1-4)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No senioritis – keep grades up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness – Essay (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bring more color and imagery to the typical immigrant story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Make request early</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (0.1-0.4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improve research – seek a good fit school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less Selective</th>
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<th>Very Selective</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1.7-1.9</td>
<td>2.0-2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Likely</strong></td>
<td><strong>Target</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reach</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
## SEGURO SCORE CASE STUDY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual Level</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scores (1-4)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2: Targeted test optional schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular Activity (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3: President of UnidosNow Club; branding of “work”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades/Unweighted GPA (1-4)</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3: No senioritis; maintained rigor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness – Essay (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4: Genuine, emotional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations (1-4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3: Early communication; message alignment (branding)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (0.1-0.4)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.4: Good fit; test optional; ethnic and geographic diversity; need-blind; full need; DACA friendly; <strong>demonstrated interest</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Less Selective | Somewhat Selective | Very Selective | Most Selective
---|---|---|---
1.0-1.3 | 1.4-1.6 | 1.7-1.9 | 2.0-2.3 | 2.4-2.6 | 2.7-2.9 | **3.0-3.3** | **3.4-3.6** | **3.7-3.9** | 4.0+  

**Likely** | **Target** | **Reach**
---|---|---

Essay and “other” were weighted higher than other elements; scores were not considered.
ACCEPTED!

• 15% of applicants admitted
• ACT Mid-Range = 31-34
• Cost of Attendance: $75,000/year

$300,000 in financial aid
Learn more about Us

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

https://unidosnow.org/
Thank you!

Questions?
Comments?
Guest Presenters

Daniel Barkowitz
Assistant Vice President Financial Aid / Veteran Affairs
Valencia College
FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES FOR NON-US CITIZENS

DANIEL T. BARKOWITZ
AVP, FINANCIAL AID & VETERANS AFFAIRS
VALENCIA COLLEGE
HOW SOME MIGHT SEE THE WORLD...

- Not a US Citizen
- US Citizen
WHAT DO WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT THE US POPULATION?

Figure 1

Immigrants and Children of Immigrants as a Share of the Total U.S. Population, 2019

- U.S.-Born Citizens: 86%
- Naturalized Citizens: 7%
- Non-Citizens: 7%
- Children with U.S.-Born Parents: 75%
- Children with Naturalized Citizen Parent: 10%
- Children with Noncitizen Parent: 12%
- Noncitizen Children: 3%

Total U.S. Population: 319.2 Million
Total Children (Ages 0-18): 75.3 Million

NOTE: Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.
AND HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND THIS FROM A FINANCIAL AID PERSPECTIVE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Selections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No, but I am an eligible noncitizen. Fill in question 15.</td>
<td>○ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen. Skip to question 16.</td>
<td>○ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Alien Registration Number</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. What is your marital status as of today?</td>
<td>I am single.</td>
<td>○ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am separated.</td>
<td>○ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am married/remarried.</td>
<td>○ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am divorced or widowed.</td>
<td>○ 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Month and year you were married, remarried, separated, divorced or widowed.</td>
<td>MONTH  YEAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. What is your state of legal residence?</td>
<td>STATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Did you become a legal resident of this state before January 1, 2017?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>○ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>○ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. If the answer to question 19 is “No,” give month and year you became a legal resident of that state.</td>
<td>MONTH  YEAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUT WHAT MAKES SOMEONE AN “ELIGIBLE” NON-CITIZEN?

1. U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island) or U.S. permanent resident with a Form I-551, I-151, or I-551C (Permanent Resident Card, Resident Alien Card, or Alien Registration Receipt Card), also known as a "green card."

2. Have an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing “Refugee,” “Asylum Granted,” “Cuban-Haitian Entrant,” “Conditional Entrant” (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980), or “Parolee” (must be paroled for at least one year, and be able to provide evidence from USCIS the intention is to become a U.S. citizen or permanent resident).

3. Hold a T nonimmigrant status ("T-visa") (for victims of human trafficking) or parent holds a T-1 nonimmigrant status.

4. Are a “battered immigrant-qualified alien” who is a victim of abuse by citizen or permanent resident spouse, or are the child of a person designated as such under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

5. Citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau. If this is the case, may be eligible for only certain types of federal student aid:
WHO IS AN “INTERNATIONAL” STUDENT?

• Someone coming in from another country to attend college on a F1 / F2 or J1 / J2 visa.
  • The X1 refers to the visa holder.
  • The X2 refers to the child of the visa holder.
• F-1 visa classification is for a full-time international student pursuing academic studies.
• J-1 visa classification is also known as the exchange visitor program (EVP) and is for foreign nationals approved to take part in work or study-based exchange programs. Examples include visiting scholar, camp counselor, or research assistant.
• Usually has to prove financial independence (or reliance upon sponsor) to be able to gain entry) – some exceptions follow
WHO’S LEFT OUT?

- Students without documentation of other status
  - DACA Students
  - So-called “undocumented” students
  - Employment Authorized: Employment Authorization Card or document from USCIS
  - Temporary Protected Status: Stamped on I-94 record or document from USCIS
  - Withholding of Removal order: Document from USCIS
  - U-Visa holders: Document from USCIS
  - Other nonimmigrant visas: may include work visa, visitor and foreign government officials (M-1, N(NATO), A2,A3,B-1,B,2,H series, L series, G series)
  - I-171 or I-464: Notice of approval to apply for permanent resident
  - Family Unity Status: I-817 or document from USCIS
  - Temporary resident: No longer eligible
  - Amnesty program: Document from USCIS
WHOSE CITIZENSHIP MATTERS FOR FINANCIAL AID?

It’s the student who matters... not the parent(s)
WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT FINANCIAL AID FOR EACH SET OF STUDENTS?

• Eligible non-citizens
  • Qualify for all types of Federal and State Aid.
  • Apply using the FAFSA (and CSS Profile, Florida Financial Aid Application, and any school application)

• International students
  • *May* qualify for institutional aid (depending on the institution)
  • *May* need to complete the CSS Financial Aid Profile (if required by the school) or some other financial aid application from the school
  • *Will not* qualify for Federal financial aid or state financial aid
    • *Exception for HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds)*
FOR OTHER STUDENTS

• Will not qualify for Federal Financial Aid or State Financial Aid
  • Exception for HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds)
• May qualify for institutional aid depending on the institution
  • In Florida, SUS institutions may not use institutional funds for ineligible non-citizens.
  • No such restrictions on State Colleges or Private Colleges in Florida
• May qualify for private or foundation scholarships
• DACA students may be asked to complete a FAFSA
  • Has been some advocacy to try to allow DACA students to be eligible for Federal Aid
• Some foundations or agencies (like TheDream.us) specifically provide scholarship funding to students of this type
WHAT ABOUT RESIDENCY (FOR TUITION PURPOSES)?

- To qualify for in-state tuition, student needs to prove Florida residency
  - Usually requires documentation such as Driver’s License, Passport, Social Security Card, etc.
  - Allowance in Florida for those who cannot prove their residency in any other way BUT have graduated from a Florida Public High School AND have been enrolled in Florida public high schools for at least 3 years to automatically qualify non-resident tuition waiver (allowing in-state rate).
RESOURCES

- https://scholarshipsaz.org/scholarships/ - list of scholarships for which students without documentation may be eligible
- https://thedream.us/ - scholarship provider to students without documentation who arrived prior to November 1, 2016
- https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/ - for International students (and some students without documentation) where the school may provide institutional financial aid and requires this form
- https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx - US Department of Labor scholarship search (includes scholarships for students without documentation)
- https://educationusa.state.gov/ - a resource for non-citizens and international students considering study in the US
Guest Presenters

Pedro Hernandez
Director of Outreach Services
Office of Student Financial Assistance
Florida Department of Education

PEDRO HERNANDEZ
Pedro.Hernandez@fidoe.org
850-245-1821
Serving Undocumented Students in the College-Going Process
Agenda

- What is the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance’s (OSFA) Role
- Where do I find financial aid?
- How and When do I apply?
- Who can help me?
Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

Mission Statement:
serves as a guarantor for the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) and the administrator of Florida's scholarship and grant programs. The OSFA mission is to facilitate higher education access and services by providing exemplary customer attention, comprehensive financial aid information, and convenient and efficient products.
Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

Mission Statement:

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF) was created by OSFA to strengthen financial skills of young adults through financial aid awareness and financial literacy education.
What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from Four Sources:
1. Federal
2. State
3. Institutional
4. Private
The Florida Financial Aid Application opens October 1* of the senior year
- Apply early - must be completed prior to August 31 of high school graduation year

One application is used for multiple programs, not just the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- Must log-in to check status, online notifications and award history
FFAA-Florida Financial Aid Application
www.Floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org
Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) Contacts

- **Email:** osfa@fldoe.org
- **Telephone:** 1-888-827-2004
- **OSFA Director Outreach Services:**
  - Pedro “Pete” Hernandez | 850.245.1821 | Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org
Guest Presenters

Oscar Portillo
Student
University of South Florida
Questions?
Up next - webinar:

Preparing students in foster care for postsecondary success
January 19th, 2022, 1-2 pm

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Conclusion