

Stop at nothing: Supporting undocumented students in the UC system

Ensuring Transfer Success Conference
University of California
California Community Colleges

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Session topics

- Terms & definitions
- Past/current/present policy
- Financial aid & scholarships
- Student support programs
- Campus specific programs
- Resources



Terms & definitions

- Unauthorized immigrant vs. undocumented
- Daca-mented vs. dreamer
- UC system identifies this population as Undocumented Students



Policy

AB 540 parameters

Under California law AB 540, certain nonresident students are exempt from paying nonresident supplemental tuition.

- In 2014, AB 2000 expanded AB 540 to students who graduated early from a California high school with the equivalent of three or more years of credits.
- In 2017, SB 68 increased the scope of student eligibility to include students who are attending California adult schools or credit and noncredit courses at CCCs.
- In 2022, SB 1141 further expanded AB 540 by removing the two-year cap on credit courses at California community colleges.

SB 68 and SB 1141

Part 1: Length of time and coursework completed per school

3 full-time years of attendance or attainment of part-time equivalent credits earned in a CA:

- Highschool
- Adult school
- Community College
- Or, any combination of the above

Or, 3 years of HS coursework and 3 years of total attendance in CA

Part 2: Degree completion, unit requirements, GED, etc.

One of the following:

- Graduate from CA HS
- Obtain certificate of completion
- Associate degree
- Transfer requirements

Where is DACA now?

On July 16, 2021, a Texas federal court ruled that DACA is **illegal**. While appeals are pending, the original decision stands.

This means:

- Individuals who already have DACA or who want to renew their expired DACA can continue to do so.
- DHS can no longer grant **new** DACA protection to people requesting it for the first time.
- Current DACA recipients can continue applying for permission to travel outside of the United States through Advance Parole for humanitarian, educational, and employment purposes.

Statement of legal residence question on UC application

As of the fall 2023 application cycle, there is a new [Statement of Legal Residence](#) section on the UC application.

Citizenship & residency questions

- Country of citizenship = No selection
- Can enter US SSN or DACA SSN or ITIN or leave blank
- Respond to questions about graduating from a California High School

AB 540 Designation

Statement of Legal Residence

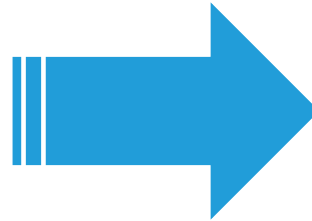
- Evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes? Yes.
- Answer questions about physical presence.
- Answer questions on permanent home based on birth year.
- Special circumstances:
 - Select 'I believe that I qualify for an AB 540 nonresident supplemental tuition exemption, based on the number of years I have attended school in California.'

Financial aid & scholarships

Financial support

California Dream Act application

- Passed in 2012 and combination of two assembly bills
 - **AB 130:** Allows for students to be eligible for endowment aid on a UC campus (ex. merit scholarship)
 - **AB 131:** Allows for grant money from the state (ex. Cal Grant)



Types of aid

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Work study
- Dream Loan Program (UC funded)

Additional financial support

Private scholarships

- Immigrants Rising Scholarship and fellowship lists
- Chicana/Latina Foundation
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund
- Latino College Dollars
- The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
- United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
- Many more



Student support programs at UC

Centers on campuses

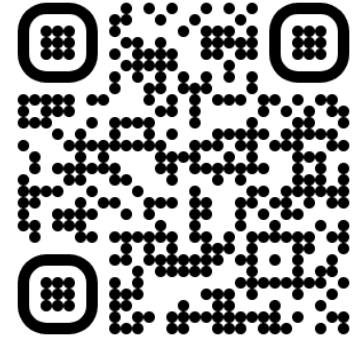
- Undocumented student services available at each campus
- Services include:
 - Academic/ general counseling
 - Internships and fellowships
 - Mentorship
 - Basic needs support
 - Celebrations and graduations
 - Much more!



Legal services available to students

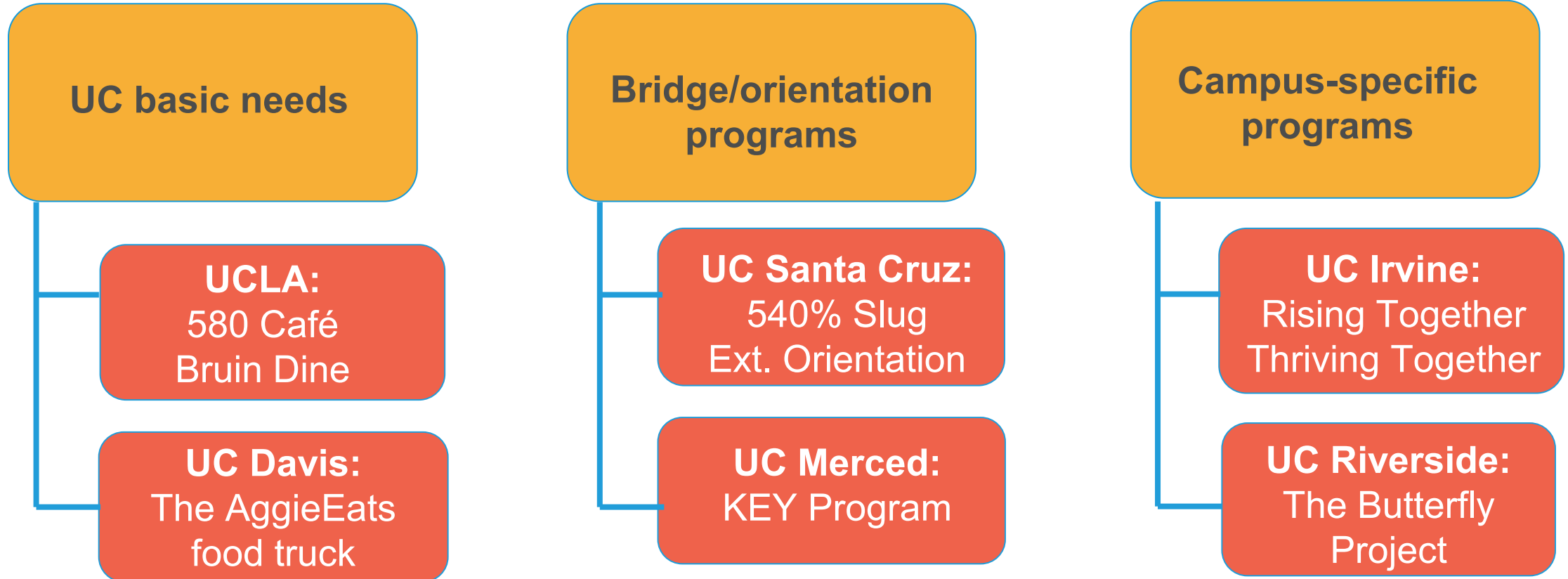
UC Immigrant Legal Services Center (UCImm)

ucimmtoolkit.ucop.edu



- Legal advice and representation for undocumented students and their immediate families
- In-depth consultations and direct representation in immigration court or before immigration agencies
- *Free DACA renewal assistance to UC students and their immediate family members.*
- Legal support for campus clinics and workshops

Other special programs



Thank you!

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