

The Path to Higher Education as an Undocumented Student

The San Diego Community College District composed of City, Mesa and Miramar Colleges are committed to maintaining a safe space for all students as they pursue their academic and professional goals.



Can undocumented students go to college?

Yes! Undocumented students may attend any California college or university where they are admitted. In addition, if they meet the requirements of state law AB 540, undocumented students do not have to pay the much-higher tuition rate that is applied to out-of-state. Undocumented students who qualify for AB 540 status can apply for state financial aid by completing the California Dream Act.

What is AB 540?



In order to qualify under AB 540, an undocumented student must have attended for three full time years or the equivalent at any combination of the following:

- Attend a California high school for 3 years
- Attend three or more years of high school course work, and attend a combination of California elementary, secondary, and high school of three years or more
- Attend a combination of California high school, adult school, and community college for the equivalent of three years or more
- Graduated or obtained a high school diploma or attainment of the equivalent or community college degree, or completed the requirements for transfer to a UC or CSU



How can I qualify for AB 540 status?

1. Complete an Admission application at City, Mesa or Miramar College
2. Submit a completed California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Request form (AB 540 affidavit) to your campus

How can I pay for it?



The California Dream Act (2011) allows AB 540 students to apply for state-funded financial aid, known as Cal Grants, and non-state funded scholarships.

- The CA Dream Act application priority filing deadline: October 1- March 2
- The CA Dream act is **FREE**. You can apply on line: <https://dream.csac.ca.gov>

For additional questions regarding the AB 540 eligibility, please contact the Admission office:

San Diego City College | (619) 388-3475
San Diego Mesa College | (619) 388-2682
San Diego Miramar College | (619) 388-7844

Visit: <https://www.sdccd.edu/students/dreamers.aspx> for campus updates

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