# College Access for Undocumented Students

Sarah Weiss Washington Student Achievement Council



# Washington Student Achievement Council

We advance educational opportunities and attainment in Washington State.



#### Residency

- In-state tuition
- State financial aid

#### **State Financial Aid**

- Programs
- WASFA



# Terminology

#### **Undocumented individuals**

People living in the U.S. without an immigration status

People who enter U.S. without documentation

Youth brought to the U.S. by their parents People with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

People who overstayed visa or other status

# Undocumented students

who meet residency standards

can get in-state tuition and

may be eligible for

state financial aid in Washington.



# Options for Washington's undocumented students

#### 2012 federal executive order

- Allows certain young people to avoid deportation and to work for a two-year period.
- Federal government rescinded on 9/5/17, but injunctions have kept it alive.
- No longer accepting <u>new</u> apps.

# DACA



#### 2003 Washington State law

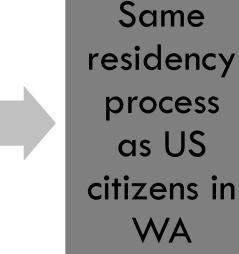
- Gives certain undocumented students in-state tuition.
- Any student can qualify.
  - U.S. citizens, permanent residents, non-citizens, F visa students.

HB 1079



# DACA residency standard

DACA (current or expired)



- (a) Independent students (residency definition) must maintain a domicile in Washington for one year for purposes other than education.
- (b) Dependent students (residency definition) must have at least one parent or guardian who has maintained a domicile in Washington for one year. Undocumented parents can have a WA domicile.

# HB 1079 residency standard



Reside in WA for 36 consecutive months right before earning WA H.S. diploma or equivalent.



High school graduates must complete full senior year at WA H.S.



Continuously reside in WA after receiving diploma or equivalent until admittance to college.



Sign affidavit saying they will file permanent resident app when eligible.

# College Bound Scholarship Requirements

Complete application in middle school

Meet state residency standards

Fulfill the College Bound Pledge

Enroll in participating institution within one year of graduating high school

Apply for financial aid every year while in college and meet income requirements



# State Need Grant Requirements

Meet state residency standards

Apply for financial aid every year while in college and meet income requirements

Attend one of over 60 eligible institutions in Washington

Funds are limited—apply early!

#### Rule of One

OR

# **FAFSA**

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- FAFSA.gov

# WASFA

- Washington Application for State Financial Aid
- ReadySetGrad.org/WASFA

# **WASFA Privacy Statement**

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) administers state financial aid including the State Need Grant and the Washington Application for State Financial Aid, or WASFA, for DREAMers. The Council is committed to providing opportunities and support to ensure every Washington student is able to pursue education beyond high school.

Regarding concerns that students, parents, and other partners may have about the confidentiality of information submitted on the WASFA,

the purpose of the application is to provide eligibility information to colleges and universities in Washington that offer State Need Grant. WSAC shares application information with campuses listed by the student so those schools may determine eligibility for resident tuition and financial aid.

# Campuses are not permitted to use the information for other purposes or share the data with other parties.

WSAC is committed to protecting the confidentiality of the information and privacy of students and families. Washington is a state committed to providing opportunities to students and protecting the rights of families.

# By the Numbers

#### WSAC state financial aid program data

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
State Need Grant	73,984	70,110	71,059	68,577	68,521
SNG WASFA	n/a	n/a	1,117	1,509	1,824
College Bound Scholarship	4,690	8,344	11,672	14,605	15,979
CBS WASFA	n/a	n/a	n/a	355	531

# Dual credit - another path to college

Open to any WA high school student

#### Credit by passing a college course

- Running Start—possible to earn an associate degree in high school
- College in the High School

#### Credit by examination

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Cambridge International Program

#### Credit by articulation

CTE Dual Credit (formerly Tech Prep)

#### Best practices and resources

Provide translated materials

Financial Aid Nights - avoid using the term FAFSA nights

Undocumented student campus taskforce

NW Immigrant
Rights Project nwirp.org

unitedwedream.
org

Undocumented student centers or multicultural centers

Conferences and trainings

Institutional aid

Undocumented student websites

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