

Tri-State Consortium: Supporting Immigrant & Undocumented Students

Cynthia Carvajal, PhD
CUNY Director for Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs



An aerial view of the New York City skyline, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers and buildings. The Empire State Building is prominent on the right side. The city extends to the horizon, with the Hudson River and East River visible in the distance.

Who am I referring to?

Fully undocumented: Individuals without a valid immigration status either because they crossed a border or body of water, their valid status expired or they overstayed their visa, they are waiting for an application approval.

PRUCOL (Permanently Residing Under Color of Law): Individuals who have permission to be in the U.S. Either through a valid status (Green Card holder), temporary status (Asylum), or twilight status (DACA).

The image features a blue-tinted office background with a central white-bordered box containing the text "STATE OF YOUR STATE". The text is in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background shows a modern office environment with desks, laptops, and people working, though the details are faded and overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The central text box is a solid dark blue rectangle with a thin white border.

STATE OF YOUR STATE

Higher Ed Immigration Portal

An initiative by the Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration.

A digital platform that integrates data, policies, and resources about DACA and undocumented, refugee, other immigrant, and international students to support federal immigration reform, fuel change at the state and campus level, and build a diverse movement of partners and stakeholders advocating alongside these students.

Find Data & Information On:

Undocumented Students

GO

[Population Glossary](#)

<https://www.higheredimmigrationportal.org/>

Pennsylvania

All Students in Higher Education 681,000

Undocumented Students in Higher Education 7,498

International Students in Higher Education 50,514

New Jersey

All Students in Higher Education 546,000

Undocumented Students in Higher Education 21,294

International Students in Higher Education 23,225

Population sizes

New York

All Students in Higher Education 1,124,000

Undocumented Students in Higher Education 26,962

International Students in Higher Education 135,813

Pennsylvania - Most restrictive

State Policies

Evaluating Access for Undocumented & Refugee Students

State policies in four key areas – in state tuition, state financial aid, professional and occupational licensure, and driver licenses – play an important role in expanding access to higher education and workforce development for undocumented students. The section below on in-state tuition also includes policies related to refugee students.

In-State Tuition & State Financial Aid **Access and Affordability**

Limited:

Policies provide the state's undocumented students, including DACA recipients, with access to in-state or reduced tuition in at least some public institutions.

Professional & Occupational Licensure **Workforce Entry & Eligibility**

Limited:

Policies allow individuals with work authorization, such as DACA recipients, to obtain occupational licensure in one or more professions that require licensure.

Driver Licenses & Identification **Mobility**

Restrictive:

Policies do not provide the state's undocumented residents with access to driver licenses and state identification, but DACA recipients can still obtain a driver's license or state identification card.

New York - Somewhat restrictive

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In-State Tuition & State Financial Aid **Access and Affordability**

Comprehensive Access:

Policies provide statewide access to in-state tuition and some state financial aid or scholarships for the state's resident DACA recipients and undocumented students.

Professional & Occupational Licensure **Workforce Entry & Eligibility**

Limited:

Policies allow individuals with work authorization, such as DACA recipients, to obtain occupational licensure in one or more professions that require licensure.

Driver Licenses & Identification **Mobility**

Accessible:

Policies provide the state's undocumented residents with access to driver licenses and/or state identification regardless of their immigration status, but these are not REAL ID compliant.

New Jersey - Most accessible

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Professional & Occupational Licensure **Workforce Entry & Eligibility**

Comprehensive Access:

Policies allow individuals to obtain occupational licensure in all professions regardless of their immigration status, provided that they meet all other requirements.

Driver Licenses & Identification **Mobility**

Accessible:

Policies provide the state's undocumented residents with access to driver licenses and/or state identification regardless of their immigration status, but these are not REAL ID compliant.

State Legislation is Key

Regardless of who is president state law stands, this is why it is key to push for state led laws as congress continues to standstill on immigration.

Student Adjustment Act of 2001

Repealed section 505 in IIRIRA, which returned to states the power to determine residency requirements for in-state tuition benefits at public universities and colleges.

State Sovereignty

Powers not delegated to the federal government are left up to the states.



State Legislation is Key

In-State

For example: All three states have access to in-state for students regardless of immigration status.

State Aid

NY & NJ have taken it a step further with access to state aid

Licenses & Certification

Only New Jersey has comprehensive access to state licensure and certification regardless of immigration status,



Roles of Universities

SUNY TPS BOT resolution

Students submitting proof of refugee or asylee status or application pending status should be treated as immigrant aliens and permitted to provide evidence of a New York State domicile. It should be noted that a person whose evidence of Refugee or Asylum status has expired is nevertheless eligible for in-state tuition

CUNY 2018 Private Scholarship Memo

Confirming private funds can be provided to students regardless of immigration status



KEEP AN EYE ON



Executive Orders – although not law, they frighten community members and make them reluctant to engage with resources. This also means keeping an eye on litigation that inevitably comes with EO.



Updates on DACA and TPS litigation – this will cause some of your PRUCOL students to become undocumented



IRS Collaboration with DHS & ICE



Registration requests

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Know Your Rights resources



Assessing what is the ICE protocol at your campus and community space.



Build with local community spaces



Advocate for legislation that other states have

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Please make sure your staff is trained on eligibility criteria for students regardless of immigration status.

Ex. Educational Opportunity CD and SEEK programs in NYS require NYS Dream Act eligibility

This means undocumented students can access these resources including funds.

Sometimes this means educating staff and bursar/disbursement of this recent legislation.

Spaces to follow to stay informed

National

@ImmigrantsRising
@UndocuProfessionals
@PresidentsAlliance
@UnitedWeDream
@TheDreamUS
@Casa4all
@lthe_ilrc
@MakeTheRoad

State

NY
@nysylc
@adelantestudents
@NYIC
NJ
@njimmigrantjustice
PA
@pircforjustice

Universities

NY
@cuny.uisp
@jccimmigrantstudents
@issobc
@ccnyimmigrantcenter
@hc.immigrantsuccess
@baruch_isso
@qc_immigrantsupport
NJ
@run_uss
PA
@TheButterflyCoalition

THANK YOU!

Cynthia.Carvajal@cuny.edu

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