Los Rios CCD
Undocumented Student Support

Presentation to the LRCCD Board of Trustees
February 16, 2022
Presentation Team

- **Sonia Ortiz-Mercado**, Interim AVC Educational Services & Student Success, District Office
- **Emelia & Cristal**, Students, Cosumnes River College & Sacramento City College
- **Joann Ramirez**, Interim Dean of Student Services & Enrollment, Cosumnes River College
- **Patricia Jimenez de Valdez**, Financial Aid Officer, American River College
- **Belinda Lum**, Sociology Faculty & Sacramento City College
  LRCFT President/Chief Negotiator,
Overview

- Undocumented Student Experience
- Who are Our Undocumented Students?
  - Definitions
  - The Numbers
- Admissions Process and Issues
- Financial Aid: Access & Limitations
- Funding, Services, and Support for LRCCD Undocumented Students
- Dreamer Ally Training, Faculty Leadership, & Community Resources
- Efforts to Enhance Support: Undocu-Student Workgroup 2022 Goals
The Undocumented Student Experience:

A Student’s Story
Understanding Our Undocumented Student Community: Key Definitions

- Undocumented
- AB 540
  - Non Resident Tuition Exemption Form
- DACA
- Mixed Status Families
- California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
POLICIES AFFECTING IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

**DACA**

"Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals" (DACA)
In 2012, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) became an immigration option for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States before the age of 16. Although DACA does not provide a pathway to lawful permanent residence, it does provide a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation, work authorization, and the ability to apply for a social security number. [CCCD Dreamers Report](#)

**AB540**

Assembly Bill 540 (AB540)
Assembly Bill 540, passed in 2001, grants students meeting certain criteria an exemption from paying nonresident tuition. [CCCD Dreamers Report](#)

**CADAA**

California Dream Act Application
Students who are undocumented, have a U Visa, or TPS status use this application to apply for state-based financial aid in California. It is administered by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). [CCCD Dreamers Report](#)
Who Are Our Undocumented Students?

- Challenges and limitations of determining student counts
  - Proxy measures: CADA applicants; AB 540, CCCApply “Other Status”, & Service Counts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>AB 540* 20/21</th>
<th>AB540 CADAA F21</th>
<th>F20 CCCApply “Other Status”</th>
<th>Program Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>1,247</td>
<td>199/85</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>146/52</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLC</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>65/30</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCC</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>201/77</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*duplicated count between colleges; district total = 2,698 + unduplicated
ADMISSIONS
The Student Experience: Front Door

1. Apply
2. Complete AB540 Form
3. Apply for Financial Aid
4. Set up eServices & Gmail
5. Complete Orientation
6. Check Math & English Placement
7. Meet with Counselors (where applicable)
8. Pay Fees
The Nuances: Application

Undocumented students who don’t enter a SSN or ITIN will not automatically receive a WID number.
The Nuances: Tuition Exemption

1. Complete AB540 Form
2. Residency Reclassification Form
3. AB540/AB2000/SB68
4. CCCC Residency General Overview (Exemptions)
5. Will Determine Form
The Nuances: Financial Aid

Complete AB540 Form

Apply for Financial Aid

AB540 + CADAA → CA State-Based FA
Visibility • Access • Awareness

Outreach & The Student Experience
New Student Virtual Orientation

Visibility • Access • Awareness

• Information specifically included for undocumented students

Who Can Apply Using the California Dream Act Application (CADAA)?

- Undocumented Students
- DACAmented Students (students with DACA)
- U Visa Holders
- TPS Holders

Financial Aid

- Assembly Bill 540
  In-state tuition: A law in California that allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition rates

Los Rios Community College

CA residents & AB540 @ CCC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition (Per Unit)</th>
<th>CA residents &amp; AB540 @ CCC</th>
<th>Non Resident @ LRCCO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$46</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td>$353 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for 24 units (12 units per academic semester)</td>
<td>$1,104</td>
<td>$8,472</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Fee: $10
Student Rep Fee: $2
UTP Fee: $2.00 per unit
Residency

Visibility • Access • Awareness

• CCCApply

• Residency
Financial Aid
Visibility ● Access ● Awareness

• FAFSA/CADAA Information
• Initial FAFSA/CADAA assistance
• Dream Center Offers one-on-one CADAA assistance
• Follow-up with residency
FINANCIAL AID
CADAA

AB540 / AB2000/ SB68
Undocumented Students

U Visa Holders

TPS Holders

DACA (not a requirement)

CA Assembly Bill 130 & 131 (Dream Act, 2012 & 2013)

Allows eligible AB 540 students access to some types of CA financial aid and scholarships.
Types of Financial Aid

1. CAL GRANT / SSCG
2. TUITION FEE WAIVER (Promise Grant or Los Rios Promise Program)
3. CHAFEE GRANT
4. SCHOLARSHIPS
5. EOPS
6. CA Dream Act Service Incentive Grant
7. Emergency Funding
Barriers and Limitations

- Complicated residency rules
- Limited funding - No Federal Aid
- Lack of trust providing documentation
- Social and economic stressors
Undocumented Student Support
LRCCD Dreamer Centers

The mission of the Dreamer Centers is to assist undocumented students and students from mixed-status families achieve their academic goals. The Dreamer Centers provide services, resources and support to address the unique barriers students face in their pursuit of higher education.

Goals

- Increase successful enrollment, persistence, graduation and transfer rates of undocumented students and students of mixed-status families.
- Cultivate a campus culture that acknowledges, and integrates the nuanced experiences of undocumented students and students of mixed-status families within their department and processes.
College Undocu-Scholar Liaison Funding & Staffing

- AB 1645 Ongoing State Funding for Dreamer Resource Liaisons

- Full-time, Permanent Undocu-Scholar Liaison Specialist Positions at each college

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>2020-21 State Allocation</th>
<th>2021-22 State Allocation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>$78,628</td>
<td>$155,899</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>$51,942</td>
<td>$102,988</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLC</td>
<td>$41,717</td>
<td>$82,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCC</td>
<td>$63,959</td>
<td>$126,816</td>
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</table>
LRCCD: Undocu-Center
Student Support

Undocumented Student Staff Provide Students:

1. Assistance with:
   a. AB540 Form (California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Form)
   b. Application Processing (to obtain LRCCD ID)
   c. California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
   d. LRCCD Application
   e. LRCCD program & counselor referrals
   f. Help with how to become a student at LRCCD campuses
   g. Residency
   h. Connection to Campus Resources
   i. Researching scholarships and financial aid

2. Information on Immigration legal services resources and referrals

3. Information about Local Resources for students and their families
Facility Leadership, Undocu- Ally Training, & Community Resources
Lead with Love

- Love of our communities, students, and colleagues
- Protecting the rights of students, staff, and faculty
- Investing in changing campus climates that are unwelcoming and at times hostile to undocumented communities

Don’t be a dream crusher, be a hope dealer

- Too often we tell our undocumented students what they “can’t do” or “should not do”
- We fail to communicate the possibilities or work for the creation of opportunities
- Undocumented communities are resilient and resourceful.
LRCFT Immigration Work

- Engaged a core group of faculty with expertise and experience working with undocumented students
- Know Your Rights Workshops
- Invested in visual affirmations of our pro-immigrant support
  - Stickers, Buttons, Posters
  - Shirts
  - Zoom backgrounds
- Utilized Union resources to obtain training materials for LRCCD and our community partners
- Created and delivered version 1.0 of the UndocuAlly. Our teams trained:
  - Hundreds of LRCCD staff, faculty, and administrators
  - Local K-12 school districts
  - Unions, Community Colleges & Universities across the country
Positive Changes

• First collective bargaining agreements in CA with immigration protections for our classified staff and faculty.

• UndocuAlly 2.0
  • Added content experts to the training team
    • The trainers sit on workgroups at the State Chancellor’s Office, CCC Foundation, and CSAC
  • Strengthened existing trainings and can provide area specific trainings
  • Our trainer’s practices contributed to the CCC Foundation’s forthcoming “Undocumented Student Support E-Handbook”

• Capitalized on Grant Opportunities
  • Catalyst Grant (Did not receive)
  • CCCCCO Legal Service Grant (SCC)
  • Californians for All College Corps program (SCC)
• Free Legal Services
  • Opening Doors Partnership
  • CHIRLA Student Legal Services
• Currently hiring 4 full-time specialists
Hope is not a strategy for change

Opportunities for growth

— Need to invest in a stronger infrastructure that is not dependent on individuals willing to do the ‘heart work’

— Ensure that front facing student service workers know how to serve undocumented communities.

— Ensure that managers and supervisors are UndocuAlly trained.

— Consistent financial support for our Dream Centers. This means not supplanting the Centers’ operating budgets when small infusions of dollars come in from the state.

— Engage content experts on each campus or in the district about how to best support undocumented students –stop working in silos.

— Directly address the misinformed notion that our current equity work for DI populations will address undocumented student need.

— Ensure that our policies, processes and strategic plans include undocumented immigrants
2022 Goals to Expand Services & Support for Our Undocumented Students

**Goal #1:** Access to Student Data to understand student needs and improve student engagement and success

**Goal #2:** Improved & supportive communication to undocumented students about available services & programs

**Goal #3:** Improve the onboarding experience/process for undocumented students

**Goal #4:** Support onboarding of full-time staff dedicated to serving undocumented students

**Goal #5:** Increased promotion of available community resources for undocumented students

For more information: Link to [2022 Goals and Objectives](#)
In Closing:

A Student’s Story
Resources

• **Understand the Differences: In-State Tuition vs. CA Dream Act va. DACA**, Immigrants Rising,  

• **In Their Voices: Undocumented in California Public Colleges and Universities**,  
  Campaign for College Opportunity,  
  https://collegecampaign.org/portfolio/in-their-voices/

• **Undocumented Student Support E-Handbook**, Foundation for California Community Colleges and the CCCCCO  
  Undocumented Student Support E-Handbook – Aiming to collect and elevate promising practices to provide undocumented students with holistic resources and services (undocustudentssupport.org)