UNDOCUMENTED YOUTH RESOURCES

Who are undocumented youth? Anyone who immigrated to the United States and does not currently have a permanent legal status (permanent residency, citizenship, etc.). Undocumented youth face barriers to accessing educational or career opportunities that require a work permit or a permanent legal status. However, support has improved because of undocumented youth advocacy.

What is DACA? Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is a program introduced in 2012 and has, at times, allowed qualifying youth to receive temporary deportation protection and a work permit. As of January 2025, first-time DACA applications are not accepted, and the future of DACA remains uncertain.

What resources are generally available to undocumented youth? Changes in state and institutional policies over the past 20+ years have led to the creation of resources and opportunities for undocumented youth. This resource guide is a starting point for undocumented youth and anyone connected to them.

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY

450,000

UNDOCUMENTED YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 24 IN CALIFORNIA.

16%

OF DACA RECIPIENTS ARE UNDER 25 YEARS OLD. THE MAJORITY ARE NOW 26 OR OLDER.

Legal Foundations

Plyler v. Doe (1982): Supreme Court ruling guarantees free public education for all children and prohibits states from creating enrollment barriers.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): Protects student record confidentiality, limiting information sharing with third parties including immigration officials except under specific legal circumstances.

AB 699 and SB 54: Prohibits collecting immigration status information, requires policies preventing immigration enforcement on campus, and forbids immigration status-based discrimination.

Resources

Community Investment for Families (CIFD) - FamilySource Centers serve Angelenos regardless of immigration status and provide a one-stop shop in your neighborhood for social, educational, work, and family support services. There are 19 FamilySource Centers that can be found here: (bit.ly/CIFDFamily)

Dream Resource Centers - Community Colleges, Cal State, and University of California Campuses have Dream Resource Centers that offer programming and support for undocumented students and their families.

Immigrants Rising
(bit.ly/LAImmigrantsRising)

- Getting Papers
- Making Money
- Mental Health & Wellness
- Going to College in CA
- Beyond DACA
- Advance Parole
- Life Outside the U.S.

 # Find Your Ally
(bit.ly/FindYourAlly)

- Free immigration legal services and case support for students, staff, and faculty on California community college campuses statewide or virtually.

Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project
(bit.ly/LAEsperanza)

- Community Education
- Direct Representation

The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)
(bit.ly/ResourcesLACOE)

- offers support for students, legal services, DACA renewals, and hotlines for immigration assistance and wage theft.

LA Unified 2025: We Are One as a "sanctuary district" and safe zone for families impacted by immigration enforcement, the We Are One campaign formalizes the District's efforts to cultivate welcoming learning environments for all students. (bit.ly/LAWeAreOne)

- Family Preparedness Plan
- Red Cards
- Family Resource Guide
- Wellness Centers / Mental Health Resources
- School Enrollment Placement and Assessment Center

United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) provides links to resources for immigrant educators and students. (bit.ly/UTLAResources)

- United We Dream: Undocumented Student Guidebook (bit.ly/LAUnitedWeDream)
- How U.S citizens can protect the immigrant community (bit.ly/AllyUnited)
- National Korean American Services & Education Consortium (Link to Resources)

LA County Office of Education - AB699: Safe Schools for Immigrant Students Toolkit for LEA Leaders (bit.ly/AB699Toolkit)

- Resources for parents, teachers, and students

Los Angeles County Office of Education Immigrant Relations & Services (bit.ly/ResourcesLACOE) provides useful resources, training sessions, and advice on better preparation.

ConsulApp Contigo (bit.ly/LAContigo) is a free mobile app for Apple and Android that connects users to consular services, legal guidance, and emergency resources such as 24/7 assistance for Mexican nationals.

National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC) (bit.ly/NAKASECApp) launched Know Your Rights app, a free mobile app for Apple and Android with 16 languages and legal resources.

Know Your Rights

We Have Rights Video (bit.ly/LARights)

- Know Your Rights Videos and resources available in multiple languages

National Immigration Law Center: Know Your Rights Under the U.S. Constitution **(bit.ly/LANILC)**

ACLU: Learn about your rights as Dreamers (DACA) **(bit.ly/ACLUDreamers)**

Community Investment for Families Office of Immigrant Inclusion and Language Access (OIILA) and The Los Angeles Public Library (bit.ly/KYRLA4Families) offer "Know Your Rights" cards. Red cards are available in multiple languages LAPL locations. A sample card is displayed below.

You have constitutional rights:

- DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.
- DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
- DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
- If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
- GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.

Emergency Hotlines

- L.A. Rapid Response Network to report and document ICE in your neighborhood immigration assistance is available 24/7 at **888-624-4752 (888-6-CHIRLA)**.
- For live, confidential assistance (English or Korean), contact the NAKASEC, available 24/7 at **844-500-3222.**
- For support in English or Spanish, call the Immigrant Defenders Law Center at **213-833-8283** (M-F, 9am-3pm).
- Student and Family Wellness. For access to mental health services and other essential school and community resources, call: **213-241-3840** (M-F, 8am-4:30pm).
- Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (24/7) for individuals who are in a suicidal crisis or emotional distress, call **988 or 800-273-8255.**

Scan for Resources & Updates

FOR MORE INFO, EMAIL YDDSPECIALPROJECTS@LACITY.ORG

THIS RESOURCE SHEET IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND DOES NOT OFFER LEGAL ADVICE. AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS THAT APPEAR ON THIS PAGE DO NOT CONSTITUTE AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES NOR SHOULD AN EXCLUSION OF OTHER WEBSITES BE CONSIDERED INTENTIONAL. OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE SOLELY THOSE OF THE HOST WEBSITE AND NOT THOSE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. ANY ADVERTISING PRESENTED IS SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOST WEBSITE AND NOT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. ADDITIONALLY, REFERENCES, LINKS, PRODUCTS, OR SERVICES DISPLAYED BY THE WEBSITES ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED ENDORSEMENTS BY THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES.

THIS RESOURCE SHEET PROVIDES SOME GUIDANCE ON HOW TO BE PREPARED AND LINKS TO EDUCATIONAL, HEALTH, AND LEGAL SERVICES. THE INFORMATION ON THIS WEBPAGE IS SUBJECT TO REVISIONS AND UPDATES DEPENDING ON ANY CHANGES IN POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND LAW.