

TUITION

Will I be required to pay nonresident tuition at public institutions in Minnesota?

At colleges that have different rates for residents and nonresidents, undocumented students usually pay non-resident rates.

Private colleges charge one rate to all students and are able to award scholarships to undocumented students. There are also many public institutions in Minnesota that charge one flat rate to residents and nonresidents alike. They are:

- Bemidji State University
- Central Lakes College
- Century College
- Inver Hills Community College
- Minneapolis Community and Technical College
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Minnesota State University, Moorhead
- Minnesota West College
- Normandale Community College
- Northland College
- Northwest Technical College
- Ridgewater College
- Riverland College
- Rochester Community and Technical College
- St. Cloud Technical College
- St. Paul College
- South Central College
- Southwest Minnesota State University (Marshal, MN)
- University of Minnesota, Crookston
- University of Minnesota, Morris

This brochure is up to date as of August 2007.

RESOURCES

Coming August 2007- NAVIGATE
www.navigatemn.org

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
<http://www.immigrantlawcentermn.org/ilcm.htm>

Minnesota Immigrant Freedom Network
<http://www.mnfn.org>

Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund <http://www.maldef.org/>

Minnesota Office of Higher Education webpage for undocumented students
<http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented>

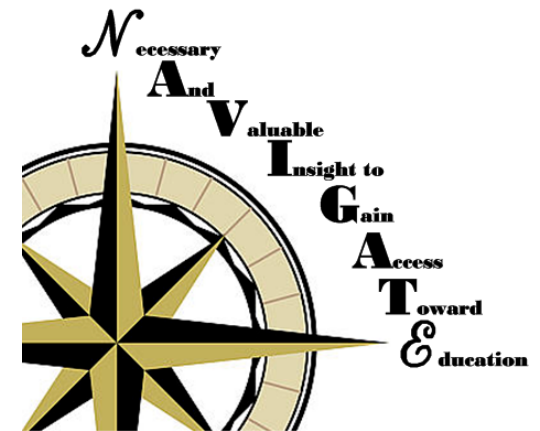
Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights webpage on undocumented immigrants
http://www.mnadvocates.org/Undocumented_Students.html



"Professors, instead of just being my teachers, they became my friends and helped me out. School has become my second home. I think if you were to stop and look around they would see that there are people who are willing to help you." –C.S.

An Overview of the College Process for Minnesota Undocumented Students

NAVIGATE



NAVIGATE offers...

- A guide book specifically for these students to assist with the college process with financial, legal, and academic considerations (and a relevant scholarship list)
- A collection of inspiring stories about students who have made it to college and succeeded despite many barriers.
- A website to distribute useful, pertinent information specific to educating and creating a welcoming community for these students.

INTRODUCTION

Why is the college process different for me as an undocumented student?

College and scholarships applications usually inquire about immigration status and citizenship. Undocumented immigrant students are not “residents” or citizens of the US, but they live in the US (and sometimes have for most of their lives).

At many public colleges in Minnesota, undocumented immigrants are charged the (more expensive) non-resident tuition rate.

Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for federal or state financial assistance, and many scholarships ask for proof of legal immigration status or citizenship.

However, there paths that undocumented students can take to make college a reality. NAVIGATE was developed by students like you who are in college and are working to widen the bridge.

How many students are affected by these barriers?

There are about 1.8 million undocumented children in this country. About 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high school each year. There are about 50,000 undocumented students enrolled in college.

There should be more.

We began this project to assist you, and give you the information that you’ll need to make good choices about the college process.

DURING HIGH SCHOOL

How can I reduce the cost of attending college?

You can often earn college credit for free with the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO), College in the Schools (CIS), and qualifying scores on Advanced Placement (AP) exams, International Baccalaureate (IB) exams, or sections of the ACT or SAT.

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

Undocumented students, like any other student, have a right to pursue and attend college in the United States. Do NOT let anyone tell you differently!

How do I apply to college?

For private colleges, call the admissions office or diversity affairs office at the college where you wish to apply. Explain your situation and ask how you will proceed with your application. Minnesota two-year colleges with flat tuition policies (see list in this brochure) have a single application to fill out, so lack of citizenship does not incur additional expenses. Undocumented students are generally not eligible to submit a FAFSA.

How do I answer questions about immigration and citizenship?

When applying to college, you legally do not have to provide a social security number. Leave these questions blank or check “other.” It is important not to misrepresent yourself or give false information; this includes giving a fake social security or green card number.

Do I apply as an international student?

Some schools may require you to fill out the international student application. You may need a student visa and a US citizen to vouch for you financially in case you run out of funds.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

How can I get more money for college?

Unfortunately undocumented students are not yet eligible to submit FAFSA forms, or receive government assistance, yet many colleges grant direct scholarships to students based on such things as need, merit, minority status, leadership, service, or on-campus internships.

Many private scholarship donors and programs do not require recipients to be citizens or legal residents. Visit our website for a current list.

If a particular college or scholarship program requires you to demonstrate financial need with the FAFSA, ask if you can submit the paper (not online) version and leave the social security section blank.

Although Minnesota College Savings Plans cannot be opened for undocumented students, you **can** take out the Minnesota SELF loan, which is a private loan program, if:

- You have a citizen as a credit-worthy co-signer for the loan, and
- If you attend an eligible school.

Visit us for scholarship lists, inspiring stories, and more: www.navigatemn.org