

CALIFORNIA PRO-IMMIGRANT POLICIES



UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

AB 540 (Firebaugh)

Signed into law in 2001, this bill allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities. In 2014, this law was further expanded by AB 2000 which expanded the eligibility scope. Furthermore, SB 68 in 2017 further expanded AB 540 to enable students to count community college and adult school towards AB 540 eligibility.

The California Dream Act (Cedillo)

The California Dream Act of 2011 became law through the passage of Assembly Bill AB 130 and AB 131.

- **AB 130 (Cedillo)** - Signed into law in 2011, this bill allowed AB 540 students to receive financial aid from state sources that do not conflict with federal law. Undocumented students were now eligible for Cal Grant awards, and grants and scholarships awarded by California public colleges and universities.
- **AB 131 (Cedillo)** - Signed into law in 2011, this bill allowed AB 540 students to receive aid from private sources through California colleges and universities.

SB 1210 (Lara)

Signed into law in 2014, this bill established the California DREAM Loan Program, allowing AB 540 students to receive state loans. Eligible undocumented students are able to receive up to \$4,000/year or up to \$20,000 for their whole school career.

AB 21 (Karla)

Signed into law in 2017, this bill ensures that all students, regardless of their immigration status, have access to higher education. Colleges and universities must make reasonable efforts to help undocumented students retain their financial aid, housing, and other benefits if they are detained, deported, or unable to attend school due to immigration actions. This bill also requires that colleges and universities must provide staff to assist undocumented students, faculty, and staff who may be subject to immigration orders. Moreover, colleges and universities must make it easy for students to reenroll and regain access to campus services after being detained, deported, or unable to attend school.

AB 699 (O'Donnell)

Signed into law in 2017, it establishes guidelines for ICE's school visits and provides protections for immigrant students and their parents.

PUBLIC SAFETY

AB 60 (Alejo)

Signed into law in 2013, this bill allows undocumented individuals to obtain a California state driver's license if certain requirements are met.

AB 4 (Ammiano)

The California Trust Act of 2013 limits the ability of local law enforcement to detain individuals solely based on immigration status, essentially preventing them from holding people in jail for extended periods just to facilitate deportation unless certain serious criminal convictions are present.

SB 54 (De Leon)

The California Values Act of 2017 prevents state and local resources from being used for mass deportation and separation of families. This law prevents local law enforcement from collaborating with ICE.

SB 29 (Lara)

Signed into law in 2017, this bill prohibits new privately funded immigration detention centers from being built in the state of California. It also outlaws cities from rewriting or modifying already existing contracts with private immigration detention centers.

WORKFORCE

SB 1159 (Lara)

Signed into law in 2014, this bill allows individuals to apply for professional state licenses, including those who are undocumented, by using an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) instead of a Social Security Number, essentially enabling them to obtain licenses for professions like nursing, barbering, or auto repair, regardless of their immigration status.

AB 450 (Chiu)

Signed into law in 2017, this bill prohibits employers from releasing employee records to ICE agents and prohibits their entry into their place of business.

HEALTH CARE

Medi-Cal Eligibility

California has expanded its Medi-Cal program to include all eligible residents, regardless of age and immigration status, starting in January 2024. This expansion is intended to provide equal health care for all Californians.