Empowering Immigrant Student Success

TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

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BCTC Latino Outreach

The Office of Hispanic Outreach and Services in the Department of Multiculturalism and Inclusion strives to provide access to high quality educational opportunities for Latino and immigrant students in the Commonwealth and to promote Latino and immigrant student success during and after a student’s enrollment in and graduation from BCTC programs.

Outreach and Student Support Services
- Linguistically and culturally relevant educational outreach for Latino students/families
- Admissions application and FAFSA support
- Individualized scholarship coaching and support
- Academic advising and career counseling
- Specialized support services (Educational access, immigration policy information, referrals to bilingual social services, job shadowing, internships, leadership programs, professional development, etc )
- Student engagement and leadership development: Enlace, the BCTC Latino Student Association and Kentucky Dream Coalition

Collaborations and Special Initiatives
- Kentucky Latino Education Alliance (K’LEA)
- Dream Educational Empowerment Program of United We Dream
- Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education
Kentucky Demographics and Data Trends
Status 101: Definitions of common immigration status

- Undocumented
- Dreamer
- DACA
- DACA-mented
- U-Visa
- T-Visa
- International Student
- Refugee
- Asylee
- LPR: Legal Permanent Resident
- TPS

My DREAM is for you to be all you were created to be!
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals:

For youth who:

- Entered US before age 16
- Lived in US since June 15, 2007
- Graduated from high school, completed a GED or enrolled in school
- Pass background check

Eligible for protection from deportation, access to work authorization, and considered lawfully present.
Current Immigration Proposal

The Good
The Bad
The Ugly
Per CPE policy KRS 13:0245 Section 8:

An undocumented student who graduates from a Kentucky high school can enroll at Kentucky colleges/universities as in-state residents for tuition purposes.

Special cases to consider:

- Refugees and Asylees have been placed by the federal government in our communities.

Access to higher education in KY
Case Studies
Case Study 1

Citizen child of undocumented parent

Application

- Student
  - completes FAFSA with SSN
  - enters income information manually or using data retrieval
  - signs FAFSA with PIN

- Parent
  - completes FAFSA using “000-00-0000” for SSN (Note: if parent holds ITIN to file taxes, do not use in place of SSN)
  - enters income information manually
  - ineligible for PIN with no SSN; prints, signs, mails signature page
Case Study 1

Citizen child of undocumented parent

Verification

- Student provides verification of income by standard means
- Parent verification of income:
  - If tax filer – must provide IRS Tax Transcript, ineligible for data retrieval with no valid SSN
  - If non-filer – may submit W-2 or signed statement if earnings below filing requirement
  - If foreign income – school must collect foreign return/documentation and convert to U.S. currency
Case Study 1

Citizen child of undocumented parent

Eligibility

- Student eligible for TIV aid as citizen
- Student may be offered additional Unsubsidized Stafford Loan due to parent’s inability to borrow PLUS with non-citizen, non-LPR status (DCL GEN-05-16, Q&A #5)
Case Study 2

Child of battered immigrant/qualified alien

Application & Eligible Status Verification

- Student completes FAFSA with Alien Registration Number (ARN)
- Student indicates “eligible noncitizen” status
- Student will fail DHS match, “C” code
Documentation of Eligible Status

DCL GEN-10-07

- I-797, Notice of Action form (separate forms for petitioner and dependent children)

OR

- Immigration Court Order
Case Study 2

Child of battered immigrant/qualified alien

Documentation of Eligible Status

- If documents unavailable/expired OR if institution has reservations or is unclear, submit G-845 paper form
Case Study 2
Child of battered immigrant/qualified alien

Eligibility

- Student eligible for TIV aid with proper documentation by FA or based on results of G-845
- Subsequent year eligibility
  - Unexpired documents – school may accept signed/dated statement of unchanged status
  - Expired documents – student must obtain new documentation
Case Study 3

Victim of human trafficking

Application & Eligible Status Verification

- Student completes FAFSA with ARN
- Student indicates “eligible noncitizen” status
- Student will fail DHS match, “C” code
Case Study 3

Victim of human trafficking

Documentation of Eligible Status

- If student is victim
  - Certification Letter or Eligibility Letter issued by HHS

- If student’s spouse or parent is victim
  - T-visa (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) issued to student
  - Victim’s Certification/Eligibility Letter
Case Study 3

Victim of human trafficking

Validation of Documents

- School must call HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement at 1-866-401-5510
- Verify validity of docs and confirm certification not expired
- Document time and date of call and record results

HHS.gov
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Case Study 3

Victim of human trafficking

Eligibility

- Student eligible for TIV after phone verification by HHS
- Subsequent year eligibility – school must call HHS to reaffirm eligibility
Case Study 4

DACA/DREAMer

Application & Eligibility

- Student not eligible for TIV or state aid in Kentucky
- Encouraged to file FAFSA with SSN issued through DACA process
- May file CSS PROFILE
- Eligible for outside grants and scholarships

PROFILE for Professionals: http://professionals.collegeboard.com/higher-ed/financial-aid/profile
Students may file the PROFILE online as early as October 1st.

Fees are $25 for the initial application and $16 per additional report/institution for 2013-14.
Scholarships

(HCF, SHPE and ES El Momento are open to DREAMERs/undocumented students)
Resources for Undocumented students (AKA Dreamers)
Resources for Professionals
Organizations & Agencies

- Best practices
- Data
- Resource guides
- Tips

Resources for University Practitioners
- Make no assumptions
- If the individual’s level of English is limited, it is no necessary to speak louder. Use “motherese.”
- Exercise patience and listen actively.
- If referring a student to another office, pick up the phone and call ahead or walk the student over to the office.
- Drop “It’s not my job” from your arsenal of work related phrases.
- Embrace opportunities to increase cultural competency.

**Tips: Customer Service for Immigrant Families**
Dear Colleague Letters
DCL GEN-06-09
   Victims of human trafficking
DCL GEN-10-07
   Battered immigrants-qualified aliens & VAWA
DCL GEN-05-16 Q&A #5
   Additional unsubsidized loan for parent who is not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

2013-2014 Federal Student Aid Handbook
Volume 1 – Student Eligibility, Ch. 2, Citizenship
   Extensive information on citizenship issues and resolution, including sample images of acceptable documentation
Application and Verification Guide, Ch. 4, P. 80, 83
   Information on verifying income for non-filers, nonresident filers and foreign income
Related Federal Agencies

- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Social Security
- Homeland Security
- U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens
College Contacts

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Knowledge is the first step for us all...