

To Be, We DREAM

DREAM Act Fact Sheet

Unless we work to change how our immigration system treats young people, our nation's brightest and most talented future leaders will be lost.

Building the Student Legalization Movement

Stand with immigrant children and young people to gain access to higher education for all.

Make your voice heard:

1. Call your Senators and Representatives at 202-224-3121, President Bush at 202-456-1111, or visit www.congress.org to find "Your Congress Member."

2. Organize your school to hold workshops and actions.

3. Contact NAKASEC to join listservs and get active.

To get involved or for more information:

National Korean American Service and Education Consortium
323-937-3703
www.nakasec.org

Korean Resource Center
323-937-3718
www.krcla.org

Korean American Resource and Cultural Center
773-506-9158
www.chicagokrcc.org

YKASEC-Empowering the Korean American Community
718-460-5600
www.ykasec.org



Each year 65,000 undocumented immigrant students graduate from US high schools, uncertain whether they will be able to achieve their dreams. These students are U.S.- raised children of immigrants who are denied the opportunity to build a future in America, the country they call home. Undocumented students face many hardships including:

- Difficulties pursuing higher education because they are denied financial aid, scholarships, and in-state tuition rates in most states.
- Those that have the resources to graduate from an institution of higher education are unlikely to work in the field of their choice or study.
- They live daily with the fear of being deported to a country that they barely know.

There are 1.7 million undocumented immigrants under the age of 18 nationally.

1 in 5 Korean Americans are undocumented, including a significant percentage under 18.

Hope for Immigrant Students

DREAM Act: On November 18, 2005, the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2005) was introduced in the Senate and it is supported by both Democratic and Republican co-sponsors. If passed, this bill will allow eligible undocumented students to legalize their immigration status and pursue their dreams.

To qualify for the DREAM Act, a student must:

- Have been brought to the US more than 5 years prior to the enactment of the bill;
- Be 15 years old or younger at time of entry into the country; and
- Graduate from a U.S. high school or obtain a GED

Qualifying students are eligible for conditional status which allows them to stay in the country for 6 years. During this time the student must graduate from a 2-year college, complete 2 years towards a 4-year degree, or serve in the U.S. armed forces for two years.

Students who meet these requirements will be granted legal permanent resident status.

All the children in the country should be children of the country.
- Bob Moses



In-State Tuition: In most states, undocumented students must pay out-of-state tuition even if they meet the residency requirements for in-state rates. Because out-of-state tuition can cost several times more and undocumented students are not eligible for scholarship or any form of financial aid, it is difficult for most to attend college.

Nine states (California, Illinois, Kansas, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington) have passed laws providing in-state tuition for undocumented students. Many other states are considering similar laws.

Currently students are eligible for in-state tuition in the 9 states if they:

1. Have attended a school in the state for a certain number of years;
2. Graduated from a high school in the state; and
3. Signed an affidavit stating that they will legalize as soon as they are eligible.