



NEW YORK STATE DREAM ACT

The New York State DREAM Act was signed into law on April 12, 2019. As a result, thousands of immigrants can now apply for financial aid for higher education at www.hesc.ny.gov/dream.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

Eligible **graduate** students include:

- ▶ Undocumented and DACAmented students
- ▶ Students with a special visa status, including:
 - 🍏 Recipients of the non-immigrant U or T visa (victims of human trafficking and violence)
 - 🍏 Recipients of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

AND

- ▶ Applied to the graduate institution within 10 years of receiving a New York state high school diploma or diploma equivalency and either:
 - 🍏 Attended a NY high school for more than two years **and graduated or**
 - 🍏 Attended a NY program for a high school equivalency diploma and **received a diploma**

U.S. CITIZENS, LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS & REFUGEES

U.S. citizens, legal permanent residents (LPR), and paroled refugees are **eligible for federal and state funded financial aid** and are encouraged to apply through a FAFSA application at studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa. To be considered only for state financial aid, you may still apply through the NYS DREAM Act.

THE JOSE PERALTA NEW YORK STATE DREAM ACT

The NYS DREAM Act application determines students' eligibility for many state awarded financial aid programs, including the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), the Excelsior Scholarship, and the Enhanced Tuition Award (ETA), and others. **Each financial aid program has a separate deadline, so apply early to make sure you get the most support!**

Please note:

- ▶ There may be other salary/income requirements for each grant or scholarship.
- ▶ Undocumented students must file affidavits with their higher education institutions noting they have applied to legalize their immigration status OR will apply as soon as they are eligible.
- ▶ Ask your school about privacy protections!

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid is monetary help for meeting the costs of a college education. Often, the amount of financial aid a student receives is based on a family's "financial need." Financial need is defined as the difference between what it costs to attend a particular college—tuition, room (housing), board (dining)—and what you and your family are expected to pay towards a college education.

HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply for state awarded financial aid through the NYS DREAM Act and to access the step-by-step guide to the application process, go to www.hesc.ny.gov/dream.

START SAVING TODAY

If you have a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), you are now able to make financial plans and save for higher education regardless of your immigration status. One savings option is to open a 529 college savings account. For more information on the NY 529 college savings plan, visit www.nysaves.org.

MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES?

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their spouses and dependents have different rules for tuition assistance. You may be eligible for additional financial aid awards. To learn more visit www.hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/military-corner.



Questions?

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Need an immigration lawyer? Hotline - (800) 556-7636