

UWT Undocumented Student Support and Advocacy Frequently Asked Questions

Question: How can I pay Washington resident tuition rates?

Answer: See the Residency info on the Registrar's website to see if you qualify for the Residency Affidavit <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/node/37816> or if DACA apply using the Residency questionnaire. <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/office-registrar/eligible-non-citizens>

Question: How can I get help with paying for DACA renewal?

- UWT Emergency Aid: <https://apps.osfa.washington.edu/emergency-financial-situation/pages/index.php?form=apply>
- Centro Latino Esperanza DACA Renewal Scholarship (Deadline 5/31/20): <https://www.clatino.org/daca-renewal.html>
- El Centro de la Raza DACA Scholarship Assistance (for students who work or reside in Seattle): <http://www.elcentrodelaraza.org/get-help/daca/>
- Consulado de México en Seattle: <https://www.gob.mx/ciam/articulos/accion-diferida-para-los-llegados-en-la-infancia-daca>
- TheDream: <https://www.thedream.us/resources/>
- Mission Asset Fund: <https://missionassetfund.org/immigration-programs/>
- United We Dream: <https://unitedwedream.org/2018/04/daca-recipient-needs-support/>

Question: Where can I go for legal assistance?

Answer: Depending on the nature of the legal issue (immigration, victims of crime, etc.), the following organizations may be able to provide support:

- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (Tacoma): <https://www.nwirp.org/get-help/>
- Tacoma Community House (Tacoma): <https://www.tacomacommunityhouse.org/needhelp/>
- Colectiva Legal del Pueblo (Burien): <https://colectivalegal.org/legal-services/>
- Korean Women's Association (Tacoma): <https://www.kwacares.org/get-help/social-services/citizenship/>
- Centro Latino (Tacoma): <https://www.clatino.org/>
- Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network: <https://www.waisn.org/>
- Centro Rendú/St. Vincent de Paul (Kent): <https://svdpseattle.org/get-help/centro-rendu/>
- World Relief (Kent): <https://worldreliefseattle.org/immigration-legal-services>
- Catholic Immigration Legal Services (Seattle): <https://ccsww.org/get-help/specialized-services/refugee-immigration-services/>
- OneAmerica Washington New Americans: <https://weareoneamerica.org/what-we-do/programs/washington-new-americans/>
- Lutheran Community Services Northwest (Seatac, Tacoma): <https://lcsnw.org/program/immigration-counseling-and-advocacy-program/>
- Immigration Law Help: <https://www.immigrationlawhelp.org/>
- Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs: <https://www.seattle.gov/iandraffairs/resources>

Question: Where can I go for other types of assistance?

Answer: Depending on your needs, the following organizations may be able to provide support:

- Tacoma Community House (Tacoma): <https://www.tacomacommunityhouse.org/needhelp/>
- Korean Women's Association (Tacoma): <https://www.kwacares.org/get-help/social-services/citizenship/>
- Centro Latino (Tacoma): <https://www.clatino.org/>
- Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network: <https://www.waisn.org/>
- Washington Dream Coalition: <https://www.facebook.com/WADreamCoalition/>
- COVID-19 Relief Fund for Undocumented Individuals in Washington State: <https://www.scholarshipjunkies.org/relief>
- Centro Rendú/St. Vincent de Paul (Kent): <https://svdpseattle.org/get-help/centro-rendu/>
- El Centro de la Raza (Seattle and Federal Way locations): <http://www.elcentrodelaraza.org/get-help/>
- Casa Latina (Seattle): <https://casa-latina.org/>
- World Relief (Kent): <https://worldreliefseattle.org/>
- Catherine Place (Tacoma): <https://www.catherineplace.org/individual-services/>
- Mission Asset Fund: <https://missionassetfund.org/immigration-programs/>
- Puentes (South Seattle): <http://www.puentesseattle.org/>
- Consejo Counseling and Referral Service (Tacoma and many other locations in the area): <https://consejocounseling.org/>
- Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs: <https://www.seattle.gov/iandraffairs/resources>
- United We Dream: <https://unitedwedream.org/tools/>

Question: Is there a place I can go for counseling or simply to talk with others who understand what it's like to be from an undocumented or mixed-status family?

Answer: Yes, there are various resources on and off-campus, including the following:

- UWT Counseling and Psychological Services: <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/studentcounseling>
- Catherine Place (Tacoma): <https://www.catherineplace.org/individual-services/>
- Puentes (South Seattle): <http://www.puentesseattle.org/>
- Consejo Counseling and Referral Service (Tacoma and many other locations in the area): <https://consejocounseling.org/>
- UW Seattle Purple Group: <http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/lwb/services/purple-group/>

Question: I'm thinking about plans for after graduation. Where can I learn more about my options for employment and graduate or professional school (and how to pay for it)?

Answer: An excellent starting point is the UW Leadership Without Borders "After College" page: <http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/lwb/for-students/after-college/>

Question: How can I learn more and also get involved with issues affecting my community?

Answer: Aside from finding volunteer, internship, and employment opportunities with some of the organizations above (like United We Dream, OneAmerica, and others), there are various organizations that host conferences and are always looking for volunteers.

- Beyond HB 1079 Conference: <https://www.beyondhb1079.com/>
- Sea Mar LEAP (Latino/a Educational Achievement Project) Conference: <https://seamar.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/LEAPConference2020/tabid/1106568/Default.aspx>

Question: Should I disclose my immigration status to employers?

Answer: Each situation you may face about when and how to disclose your legal status is unique. We encourage you to develop a network of contacts and mentors who can help you think through this process. Employers are required by Federal law to confirm their employees' identity and work eligibility once an offer of employment has been accepted. More information about what to expect in verifying your identity is available here: <https://www.eeoc.gov/pre-employment-inquiries-and-citizenship>

Question: Is my family welcome to attend orientation?

Answer: For Autumn 2020, family members are welcome to watch online webinars - there is no registration or fee required to participate, and no personal information is collected. Translation services are available upon request if received at least 10 business days prior to a live event.

Question: As an undocumented student, will I need to have a background check to work on campus?

Answer: Student employees may be given a background check, depending on the work they will be undertaking in their role. Background checks at UW Tacoma are for criminal convictions, which is separate from the Federal requirement to check work eligibility which will also happen when students are hired as hourly workers.

Question: Can I participate in your events, resources, and services?

Answer: Our programs and services are designed to support students who will be the first in their family to graduate from a 4 year college in the United States, including students who identify as undocumented or DACAmented. More information about programs and services are available here: <https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/firstgen>

Other websites with useful information and resources

“Preparing for the Upcoming DACA Decision & Coping with Its Aftermath: Recommendations for School Administrators, Educators, Counselors, and Undocumented Students”:

<https://mydocumentedlife.org/2020/05/28/preparing-for-the-upcoming-daca-decision-coping-with-its-aftermath-recommendations-for-school-administrators-educators-counselors-and-undocumented-students/>

Contingency planning resources for DACA recipients:

<https://weareoneamerica.org/2020/05/12/from-the-desk-of-oneamerica-staff-attorney-daca-recipients-await-supreme-court-decision-what-you-should-do-now/>

- UW Leadership Without Borders: <http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/lwb/>
- My Undocumented Life: Up-to-Date Information and Resources for Undocumented Immigrants: <https://mydocumentedlife.org/>
- U.S. Department of Education Educational Resources for Immigrants, Refugees, Asylees, and Other New Americans: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/focus/immigration-resources.html>
- Selected Resources for Service Providers Working with Immigrant Communities (Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition)--not sure how up to date this is: <https://ericmembers.files.wordpress.com/2017/03/list-of-resources-for-providers.pdf>
- City of Tacoma Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs: <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=141157>