

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)
For DACA Students at
Missouri Public Colleges and Universities

Q. What happened this legislative session that is changing my opportunities at some Missouri schools?

A. This year's Missouri legislature took action to tighten requirements on colleges and universities regarding undocumented and DACA students. In the prior year(s), some discretion had been exercised, but the 2015 legislative session effectively raised tuition, rescinded scholarships, and threatened schools enrolling Dreamers. Two bills have caused great damage:

- Passing of SB224
 - This piece of legislation requires a student to be a United States citizen or permanent resident in order to be eligible to receive money from the A+ Schools Program to attend community colleges tuition-free.
- Passing of HB3
 - This budget bill directs that undocumented/DACA students be charged the highest rate of tuition at Missouri publics– either out-of-state or international rates.
 - The budget bill effectively prohibits any “public benefits” to undocumented students (state scholarships and financial aid programs)
 - The bill's enforceability is questionable, but it threatens financial penalty to Missouri public higher education institutions that offer students without “legal immigration status” in-state rates or public benefits.

Q. How does this affect students?

A. If students are undocumented (and even if they have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival approval in place), this legislation is unfortunately targeted at you. A number of organizations in the state, including ours, have worked to defeat these measures and will continue to do so.

- **This ONLY affects students if they are already enrolled or planned to enroll in a Missouri PUBLIC college or university. This will not affect students enrolled in public colleges in other states or private/independent schools in Missouri.**
- If students were receiving in-state tuition rates, there's a strong probability that they will be charged out-of-state or international rates. These rates may be more than double what they would pay as a resident of Missouri.
- Institutional scholarships may be rescinded.
- Students may not receive any official notice of these changes from your university in time to make changes in their plans.