

# State Bills on Access to Education for Immigrants: 2015

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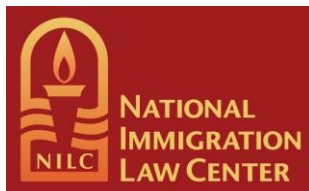
THIS TABLE LISTS some of the state bills that address access to higher education for immigrant students. It includes bills that would improve access by providing in-state tuition rates to a state’s high school graduates, regardless of their status, or by increasing access to financial aid or scholarships. It also lists bills that seek to restrict access to education by banning enrollment or in-state tuition, or by creating other barriers to postsecondary education for immigrant students. Because the 2015 state legislative sessions are in progress, this information is incomplete and is subject to change. Please contact Tanya Broder ([broder@nilc.org](mailto:broder@nilc.org)) if you have additions or revisions to offer.

## Improving Access to Higher Education: Tuition Equity, Scholarships, and Financial Aid

Tuition equity bills generally allow students who attend high school in a state, graduate, and meet other criteria to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status. Also listed below are measures providing access to state financial aid and scholarships, as well as other efforts to improve or restore access to education for students who attend a state’s high schools.

STATE	NO.	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION OF BILL	STATUS
AZ	<a href="#">SCR 1008</a>	Quezada	Would submit measure to voters to allow access to in-state tuition and state financial aid at post-secondary schools and adult education for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their status.	Government, Education, Rules
CA	<a href="#">AB 206</a>	Stone, Medina, Alejo	Would allow students who meet certain criteria to participate in a state work-study program, regardless of their status.	<b>Higher Education Committee passed (9-2) on April 7;</b> Appropriations
CA	<a href="#">AB 1366</a>	Lopez	Would establish Dream Resource Centers at public colleges and universities to assist students who qualify under the state’s tuition equity law.	Higher Education
CA	<a href="#">SB 247</a>	Lara	High schools and public colleges and universities may establish Dream Centers to provide information to undocumented students about educational support services, including in-state tuition and financial aid.	<b>Senate Education passed (8-0) on March 25;</b> Appropriations
CT	<a href="#">SB 398</a>	Looney	Access to institutional aid for students granted deferred action under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.	<b>Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement favorable vote (17-1) on March 24, 2015;</b> calendared for Senate vote

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STATE	NO.	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION OF BILL	STATUS
CT	<a href="#">HB 6844</a>	Sharkey, et al. (Governors)	Improving access to in-state tuition for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their status, by reducing the required years in at Connecticut high school from 4 to 2.	<b>Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement, Favorable (14-3) on March 19;</b> on House calendar
CT	<a href="#">HB 6845</a>	Sharkey	Provides funding for scholarships for students eligible to pay in-state tuition, regardless of their status.	Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement, <i>public hearing 3/12/15; Appropriations</i>
CT	<a href="#">HB 5800</a>	Lemar	Access to state financial aid for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of status.	Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
CT	<a href="#">HB 5797</a>	Vargas	Access to scholarships, loans, and grants for undocumented students who meet certain criteria.	Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment advancement
GA	<a href="#">SB 44</a>	Orrock	Ensures that students granted deferred action can qualify for in-state tuition.	Senate read and referred (hearing but no vote; <i>did not advance</i> )
IL	<a href="#">HB 143</a>	Andrade	Creates a tax check-off that would support Illinois DREAM Fund scholarships.	Revenue and Finance Committee; Income Tax Subcommittee; Rules Committee
IN	<a href="#">SB 345</a>	Rogers	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	<b>Appropriations Committee passed (8-4) on Jan. 29, 2015;</b> to Senate
IN	<a href="#">HB 1325</a>	Shackleford	Clarifies that DACA grantees are eligible to pay in-state tuition if otherwise eligible.	Education Committee
MA	<a href="#">HB 1061</a>	Provost et al.	Access to in-state tuition and financial aid for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Joint Committee on Higher Education
MA	<a href="#">SB 654</a>	Chang-Diaz	Access to in-state tuition for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Joint Committee on Higher Education
MA	<a href="#">SB 666</a>	Forry	Access to in-state tuition for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Joint Committee on Higher Education
MS	<a href="#">HB 196</a>	Dickson	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Universities and Colleges; Appropriations; <i>dead</i>
MS	<a href="#">SB 2498</a>	Frazier et al	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Universities and Colleges; <i>dead</i>

STATE	NO.	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION OF BILL	STATUS
MS	<a href="#">HB 652</a>	Dickson	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Universities and Colleges; Appropriations; <i>dead</i>
MO	<a href="#">HB 435</a>	Morgan	Students who meet certain criteria may not be denied admission and may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Introduced
NH	<a href="#">HB 675</a>	Gottling et al.	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	House Education Committee hearing Feb. 3, 2015, <i>report: inexpedient to legislate</i>
NJ	<a href="#">A3617</a>  <a href="#">S 2359</a>	Schaer, Johnson, Prieto, Quijano, Mukherji  Ruiz Sweeney	Access to state financial aid programs for students who are eligible to pay in-state tuition rates under New Jersey's tuition equity law.	<b>Assembly Budget Comm. passed (7-4) on Dec. 11, 2014</b>  Senate Higher Education
NJ	<a href="#">A3013</a>  <a href="#">S2543</a>	Ciattarelli  Bateman	Removes the exclusion of nonimmigrants from the law providing access to in-state tuition rates for students who meet certain criteria.	Assembly Higher Education Senate Higher Education
NY	<a href="#">budget</a>		Access to state financial aid for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status (p. 39).	<i>Budget passed without this item</i>
NY	<a href="#">AB 4311</a>	Moya et al.	Establishes a DREAM Fund Commission, to provide scholarships to children of immigrants, and state financial aid to students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status, and access to family tuition accounts for parents with ITINs.	<b>Assembly passed (87-45) on Feb. 26;</b> Senate Higher Education
NY	<a href="#">SB 3702</a>	Espallat et al.	Access to state scholarships for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Higher Education
NY	<a href="#">SB 776</a>	Rivera et al.	"New York is Home Act": Access to an array of rights and services, including scholarships and state financial aid, for New York residents who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Senate Finance
NY	<a href="#">AB 4831</a>	Moya et al.	Clarifies that lawfully present residents, and students regardless of status who meet certain criteria may be eligible for state financial aid; allows parents with ITINs to establish college savings accounts.	Governmental operations
NC	<a href="#">SB 463</a>	Fletcher	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Rules and Operations of the Senate
NC	<a href="#">H689</a>	Luebke	Students who meet certain criteria may be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates, regardless of their immigration status.	Committee on Education-Universities, if favorable, Judiciary I, if favorable, Appropriations

STATE	NO.	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION OF BILL	STATUS
OR	<a href="#">SB 932</a>	Dembrow et al.	State financial aid scholarships and grants for students who qualify for exemption from paying nonresident tuition.	<b>Education Committee passed (4-2) on April 7, 2015</b> , to Ways & Means
RI	<a href="#">HB 5228</a>	Diaz et al.	Access to in-state tuition for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	House Finance <i>held for further study</i>
RI	<a href="#">SB 305</a>	Pichardo	Access to in-state tuition for students who meet certain criteria, regardless of their immigration status.	Senate Finance <i>held for further study</i>
TN	<a href="#">SB 612</a>  <a href="#">HB 675</a>	Gardenhire  White	Access to in-state tuition for students who are lawfully present in the U.S. and meet certain other criteria.	<b>Senate passed (21-12) on April 16, 2015</b> ; to House  <b>Ed Admin. &amp; Planning Subcommittee rec pass if amended; Gov. Operations passed (7-2) on April 14</b> ; Finance Ways & Means
UT	<a href="#">SB 253</a>	Jenkins	Access to privately-funded scholarships administered by public universities, for graduates of Utah high schools, regardless of their immigration status.	<b>Governor signed into law on March 30, 2015</b>
VA	<a href="#">HB 1478</a>  <a href="#">HB 1356</a>	Kory  Ramadan	Confirms that students granted DACA are able to establish domicile and may pay in-state tuition rates if otherwise eligible	Higher Education Subcommittee, <i>left in Education</i>

### Bills Restricting Access to Post-Secondary Education

Includes proposals to ban enrollment in higher education, repeal in-state tuition laws, and restrict financial aid, in-state tuition, grants or scholarships.

STATE	BILL NO.	AUTHOR(S)	DESCRIPTION AND BILL TEXT	STATUS
CT	<a href="#">HB 5181</a>	Davis	Would repeal the state's tuition equity law.	Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
FL	<a href="#">HB 4029</a>	Tobia	Would repeal the state's tuition equity law.	Choice and Innovation Subcommittee; Ed. Appropriations
KS	<a href="#">HB 2139</a>	Rubin et al.	Repeals tuition equity law and denies access to in-state tuition rates to students who are not lawfully present in the U.S.	Education Committee <i>hearing Feb 24</i> ; March 20 at 1:30, <b>tabled</b>
MA	<a href="#">HB 1054</a>	Lyons	Would deny in-state rates to students who are neither US citizens nor lawful permanent residents.	Joint Committee on Higher Education

STATE	BILL NO.	AUTHOR(S)	DESCRIPTION AND BILL TEXT	STATUS
MA	<a href="#">HB 1053</a>	Lombardo	Would deny in-state tuition rates and fees to students who are neither US citizens nor lawful permanent residents.	Joint Committee on Higher Education
MO	<a href="#">HB 187</a>	Fitzpatrick	Denies institutional financial aid, scholarships and grants to students who do not have a lawful status. Students with an unlawful immigration status charged the same tuition rates as international students.	<b>House passed (111-41) on March 11, 2015;</b> Senate Education
MO	<a href="#">SB 224</a>	Romine and Dixon	Restricts access to the Missouri A+ Schools Program to students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.	<b>Senate passed on March 17, 2015;</b> House Higher Education Committee <i>hearing scheduled for April 21</i>
NY	<a href="#">AB 1468</a>	Crouch	Would deny enrollment in higher education for students who are not lawfully present in the U.S.	Higher Education
TX	<a href="#">SB 1819</a>	Campbell	Would repeal the state's tuition equity law and require that individuals be authorized by federal statute to be present in the U.S. in order to qualify for in-state tuition.	<b>Veterans Affairs and Military Installations Committee passed (4-3) on April 13, 2015;</b> to Senate
TX	<a href="#">HB 209</a>	Stickland	Would repeal the state's tuition equity law.	State Affairs
TX	<a href="#">HB 360</a>	Keough	Would require students to verify citizenship or lawful residency to qualify for in-state tuition rates.	State Affairs
TX	<a href="#">HB 586</a>	Zedler	Would repeal the state's tuition equity law.	State Affairs
TX	<a href="#">SB 117</a>	Taylor	Would require applicants for state financial aid to be eligible for federal financial aid.	Higher Education
TX	<a href="#">SB 351</a>	Birdwell	Denies in-state tuition to students who are not authorized to be present in the U.S.	State Affairs
VA	<a href="#">SB 722</a>  <a href="#">H 1356</a>	Black  Ramadan	Declares that any person with a student or other temporary visa, TPS, DACA, or DAPA does not have the capacity to intend to remain in Virginia indefinitely and, therefore is ineligible for in-state tuition rates.	<b>Senate defeated (20-19) on Jan. 20, 2015</b>  Subcommittee on Higher Education, <i>left in Education</i>