



# **MALVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **DEPARTMENT OF CHAIRPERSONS**

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# Scholarships to Help Undocumented Students Pursue College Dreams

Every year, approximately **65,000** undocumented students – many of whom were brought to the country at a young age by a parent or guardian – graduate from U.S. [high schools](#). For many, this is the end of their education.

Undocumented students cannot legally receive federal student [financial aid](#) of any form, including loans, grants and scholarships. At the state level, most require undocumented students to pay out-of-state tuition to attend public [colleges and universities](#) and limit the students from receiving state loans, grants and other financial help.

Undocumented youth, often referred to as ‘Dreamers’, - “based on a proposal in Congress called the DREAM Act that would provide legal protection for young immigrants” - increasingly have more options to help pay college costs.

However, opportunities are on the rise and more options continue to emerge for Dreamers to access financial aid. Beyond scholarships intended for undocumented immigrants, students **can now** seek out financial aid from private sources, assistance from certain states that offer it to undocumented residents, and in-state tuition provided to undocumented residents in some states. “In **New York**, for example, undocumented students who meet the eligibility requirements can apply for state awards like the Excelsior Scholarship, a free-tuition program; the **New York State Tuition Assistance** Program, which awards students up to \$5,165 annually; and other state scholarships” (US News, Aug.2019).

Still, opportunities like these are limited. They can vary widely depending on the student's state of residence and his or her immigration status – particularly whether a student has been granted a status known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or **DACA** (*which allows undocumented immigrants who were brought by their parents to the U.S. before the age of 16 protection from deportation and permission to work legally*).

There are some websites like **Fastweb** and **Cappex** that allow students to create a free profile, research what's available and end up with personalized matches based on a variety of criteria, such as ethnicity, location, activities, academic interests and honors. **Scholly**, another scholarship matching system accessible on the web or through a mobile app, allows users to see choices, track deadlines and follow the status of their submissions for a \$2.99 monthly fee.

In addition, The [U.S. Department of Education](#) also offers a range of resources for exploring [grants](#) from a variety of sources, including all 50 states and federal agencies like the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services.

***Below is a list of some of the scholarships available to New York students.***

**Included as well are 2 Database lists that contains over 400 scholarships available to undocumented high school students perusing higher education.** Each one has a direct link to the scholarship website.

### **The Dream.US**

As the nation's largest scholarship program for undocumented immigrants, TheDream.US provides a national scholarship worth up to \$14,500 for an associate degree and \$29,000 for a [bachelor's degree](#). This scholarship, which is renewable each year, can also include an additional annual stipend of \$1,000 for books, supplies and transportation. The Scholarship is for up to \$16,500 for an associate's degree and \$33,000 for a bachelor's degree. The Dream. US is the nation's largest college access and success program for DREAMERS. <https://www.thedream.us/scholarships/national-scholarship>

**The Gates Scholarship**. Awarded to 300 minority high school seniors every year who exhibit strong leadership skills and academic records and who demonstrate great financial need. Funds cover the remaining cost of attendance after expected family contribution and other awards. <https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/>

**Coca-Cola Scholars Program**. Each year, scholarships of \$20,000 per person are awarded to 150 students based on their academic merits, leadership skills and service. Smaller awards are also available. <https://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/>

**Google Scholarships**. Google offers a variety of specific scholarships for women, underrepresented minority students and those with disabilities looking to study computer science. <https://buildyourfuture.withgoogle.com/scholarships/>

**Dell Scholars Program**. Recipients get \$20,000, a laptop and credits for textbooks. The award is directed toward low-income students who have overcome challenges and "are better than their numbers indicate," according to the scholarship foundation's website. <https://www.dellscholars.org/>

**UNCF Scholarships**. More than 10,000 African-American students receive some form of aid each year through several scholarship options, such as those for people pursuing the STEM fields – science, technology, engineering and math – or aspiring entrepreneurs. <https://uncf.org/scholarships>

**Cooke College Scholarship Program**. Scholarships of up to \$40,000 per year are awarded to high-achieving high school students with financial need as selected by the education-focused Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. <https://www.jkcf.org/>

**James Beard Foundation National Scholars Program**. Ten candidates receive \$20,000 apiece to pursue a variety of food-related subjects, such as culinary arts, agriculture and sustainability. Other smaller awards are also available.

<https://www.jamesbeard.org/scholarships>

**The Golden Door Scholars** Golden Door Scholars was founded in 2013 with the goal of promoting economic mobility for undocumented students. In our first year, we awarded 13 scholarships. Since then, we have impacted 473 undocumented students by partnering with schools to cover tuition, room, and board for a four-year degree. Our scholars also have access to mentors, internship, and job search support, along with other professional growth opportunities.

<https://www.goldendoorscholars.org/>

The **QuestBridge National College Match** This program, for example, pairs high-achieving, low-income students – including undocumented residents – with 38 top colleges, including Duke University, Brown University and the University of Notre Dame. The schools then award full four-year scholarships, including room and board, to QuestBridge scholars. <https://www.questbridge.org/>

**The Hispanic Scholarship Fund** The Hispanic Scholarship Fund is designed to help graduating high school seniors, community college transfer students, and undergraduate and graduate students of Hispanic heritage obtain a postsecondary degree. Awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 and are based on merit and need. <https://www.hsf.net/scholarship>

**Que Llueva Café Scholarship - CORE** Based in New York, this scholarship is sponsored by the **Chicano Organizing and Research Education** and is open to all states of the US including Puerto Rico. [http://ca-core.org/que\\_llueva\\_cafe\\_scholarship\\_program](http://ca-core.org/que_llueva_cafe_scholarship_program)

**The National Association of Hispanic Journalists** NAHJ scholarship opportunities are open to college-bound high school seniors, college undergraduates, and graduate students pursuing careers in English or Spanish-language print, broadcast, digital, or photojournalism. Students attending four-year colleges and community colleges in the United States and Puerto Rico with a GPA of 3.0 or better are eligible for the scholarships, with amounts ranging from \$1,500 – \$10,000.

<https://nahj.org/scholarships>

## [OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FOR LOCKED-OUT DREAMERS](#)

Available to NY and all states. Up to \$20,000 per year for four years for tuition, fees, and on-campus housing and meals. You must have current DACA or TPS and Came to the United States before the age of 16. <https://www.thedream.us/scholarships/opportunity-scholarship/>

The [Western Union Foundation's Family Scholarship Program](#) is a new initiative for immigrants and their families. This program is intended to help two members of the same family move up the economic development ladder through education. Scholarships may be used for tuition for college/university education language acquisition classes. All applicants must be 18 years old or older, must have lived in the United States for seven years or less and must reside in one of the following cities at the time of application: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, New York, Washington, or Miami. <https://www.westernunionfoundation.org/>

## [DATA BASED OF EXTENSIVE LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS WITH WEBSITE LINKS](#)

**Choose by Region (NY) or by category: NATIONAL -This means that the scholarships are available to all 50 states.** Many of these scholarship awards can be processed with just the student's name and address. If a scholarship specifically requests a **SSN**, ask if it is possible to submit an **ITIN (Individual Taxpayer Identification Number)** or **DACA temporary ID number** instead.

1. [MALDEF Scholarship Resource Guide](#) MALDEF provides this extensive list of scholarships, including many that **do not inquire about immigration** status or **require a valid social security number**. The overview of scholarships provided includes website links that you are advised to visit for more complete details as it is not practical to list every requirement of each scholarship. <https://www.maldef.org/resources/scholarship-resource-guide/> **PDF attached**
- 2 [Immigrants Rising Undergraduate Scholarship Resource Guide](#) This is an informational extensive list of scholarship opportunities that don't require proof of US citizenship or legal permanent residency. It also include links to additional Databases resources for scholarships and immigration assistance. <https://immigrantsrising.org/> **PDF attached**