

Undocumented Students

On April 27, 2018, the Connecticut General Assembly enacted a [new state law](#) that allows undocumented students to apply for institutional financial aid at state schools. These students must meet certain age, residency, and criminal history requirements. Students must also provide an affidavit to Charter Oak State College about their intent to legalize their immigration status when they are eligible to do so. This does not apply to non-immigrant visa holders.

Undocumented veterans may be eligible for institutional financial aid beginning with the fall 2018 semester. To be eligible, veteran students must meet the following criteria:

- Honorably discharged veteran of the US Armed Forces;
- Thirty years of age or younger on June 15, 2012;
- Fifteen years of age or younger when they arrived in the United States and have continuously resided in the United States since such arrival; and
- Have not been convicted of a felony in this state or another state.

Starting in the 2019-2020 academic year, undocumented students may apply for institutional aid consideration toward the spring 2020 semester. To be eligible, students must meet the following criteria:

- Classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes;
- Thirty years of age or younger on June 15, 2012;
- Sixteen years of age or younger when they arrived in the United States and have continuously resided in the United States since such arrival; and
- Have not been convicted of a felony in this state or another state.

Institutional financial aid is awarded on the basis of financial need and fund availability. In order to be considered for institutional financial aid, undocumented students must meet these additional eligibility requirements:

- Must be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes;
- Must be accepted into a degree program (institutional aid is not available for certificate program students or graduate program students);
- Must be meeting the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy at the attending institution;
- Must be enrolled at least half-time (6 or more credits per semester);
- Must meet any priority deadlines or requirements published by the attending institution related to the receipt of institutional financial aid.

The Office of Financial Aid encourages undocumented students to search for scholarship opportunities from additional resources. Many organizations do not have restrictions based on citizenship or legal status.