



Undocumented Student Rules in Utah Colleges & Universities

What is Utah House Bill 144 (HB 144)?

Utah's HB 144 is a state law that allows certain undocumented non-resident students to pay in-state tuition at Utah's public colleges and universities.

There are no federal laws prohibiting their admission, and many states offer tuition equity laws, allowing them to pay in-state tuition rates. While they are ineligible for federal financial aid, they can access state and private aid, attend a variety of public and private institutions, and find support through organizations like [TheDream.US](#) and [Informed Immigrant](#).







To qualify, students must:







- Attend a Utah high school for 3 or more years
- Graduate from a Utah high school or earn a GED in Utah
- File an affidavit with the college promising to apply for legal status when eligible
- Not have been enrolled in college before Fall 2002-03 term

This law does not provide federal financial aid, but it can save students thousands in tuition costs.

More info: [Utah Legislature: HB 144](#)

Undocumented Student Tuition & HB 144 Resources in Utah Colleges & Universities

Institution	HB 144 / In-State Tuition?	Scholarships / Notes	Reference Links	QR Code
University of Utah (Public)	Yes (3 yrs UT HS + UT diploma/GED + affidavit)	Institutional/private scholarships possible; no federal aid.	Dream Center FAQ (https://dream.utah.edu/faq.php)	
Utah State University (Public)	Yes (nonresident tuition waiver under HB 144)	USU HB 144 waiver terms; no federal aid.	USU Resources (https://www.usu.edu/financial-support/undocumented-student-resources)	
Weber State University (Public)	Yes (apply for HB 144 nonresident waiver)	Residency page lists HB 144 path.	Weber Immigrants Page (https://www.weber.edu/admissions/immigrant.html)	
Southern Utah University (Public)	Yes (HB 144 waiver)	SUU waiver form & page reference HB 144; no federal aid.	SUU Waiver PDF (https://www.suu.edu/financial-aid/pdf/hb144-waiver-and-procedures.pdf)	
Utah Tech University (Public)	Yes (HB 144 affidavit)	Registrar has HB 144 affidavit; scholarships site lists HB 144/HB 118.	Affidavit PDF (https://catalog.utahtech.edu/campusresources/admission/Non-Resident-Affidavit-HB144.pdf)	
Utah Valley University (Public)	Yes (HB 144/HB 118)	Detailed HB pages; no federal aid.	UVU Residency (https://www.uvu.edu/admissions/residency/hb-applications/index.html)	

Salt Lake Community College (Public)	Yes (HB 144/HB 118)	SLCC Dream Center and affidavit instructions; no federal aid.	SLCC Dream Center (https://www.slcc.edu/dreamcenter/policies-in-utah.aspx)	
Snow College (Public)	Yes (HB 144/HB 118)	Registrar provides HB 144 affidavit forms.	Affidavit Form PDF (https://www.snow.edu/offices/registrar/download/HB%20144%20HB%20118%20Affidavit.pdf)	
Brigham Young University (Private)	No (private; HB 144 does not apply)	BYU sets own tuition rules; no federal/state aid; some institutional/outside scholarships available.	BYU Immigration Info (https://enrollment.byu.edu/admissions/immigration-information)	
Westminster University (Private)	No (private; HB 144 does not apply)	Admits undocumented students; may consider for institutional aid.	Westminster Resources (https://westminsteru.edu/student-life/student-engagement-and-belonging/student-diversity-and-inclusion-resources/undocumented-student-resources.html)	
Ensign College (Private)	No (private; HB 144 does not apply)	Admissions policy; case-by-case basis; no federal/state aid.	Ensign Admissions (https://www.ensign.edu/admissions)	
Western Governors University (Private/Online)	No (private/online; HB 144 does not apply)	Offers institutional scholarships; no federal aid without eligible status.	WGU Scholarships (https://www.wgu.edu/financial-aid-tuition/scholarships.html)	

If You Have DACA: Scholarships & Financial Aid — Quick Guide

Riverton High • Scholarship Office

What DACA Means for Money

- You are not eligible for federal aid (FAFSA grants/loans/work-study). Some colleges still ask you to file FAFSA or an alternative form to assess institutional aid.
- Utah: If you graduated from a Utah high school and meet HB144 requirements, you can usually qualify for in-state tuition (talk to your college).
- Many Utah state programs (e.g., Opportunity Scholarship) require citizenship or permanent residency — DACA students typically aren't eligible. Always verify.
- Private scholarships (local, community, national) may be open to DACA/undocumented. Read eligibility carefully.

Smart Paying Strategy (Stack Your Options)

- In-state tuition (if eligible via HB144) to lower the baseline cost.
- Institutional aid: ask each college about scholarships open to DACA/undocumented students.
- Private scholarships: focus on local awards (city, county, credit unions, foundations) and identity-based or interest-based awards.
- Work: campus jobs available at some schools (policies vary); off-campus options depend on your situation.

Action Steps

- Tell your counselor/scholarship office your status (confidentially) so we can route you to the right resources.
- Ask each target college about Dreamer/DACA support and institutional scholarships.
- Search and apply weekly: build a shortlist and track deadlines.
- Gather docs early: transcripts, recommendation letters, short bio/activities, personal statement.

Trusted Resources

- USCIS DACA: official status, forms, and policy — uscis.gov/DACA
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC): guides and updates — ilrc.org
- National Immigration Law Center (NILC): policy summaries — nilc.org
- Immigrants Rising: scholarship lists open to undocumented students — immigrantsrising.org
- Utah: U of U Dream Center • Utah Immigration Collaborative • Catholic Community Services • Comunidades Unidas

Note: This handout is informational and not legal advice. Policies change — verify details with colleges and official sources.