

9. Build Agency and Power

- Help students start a group/club to raise awareness about immigration issues
- Inform students about their rights: www.ilrc.org and www.nilc.org
- Connect students to culturally competent and responsive mental/emotional health services: immigrantsrising.org/mentalhealth
- Educate students about how other marginalized groups have organized against their marginalization
- Build faith—a sense of agency and a belief that things will change for the better

10. Create Spaces for Storytelling and Creative Expression

- Encourage students to share their stories (when safe)
- Create space for students to build their own meaning and identity that is different from the negative stigma and stereotypes about undocumented immigrants
- Explore the Storyteller's Bill of Rights and Principles of Trust with your students: immigrantsrising.org/storytelling/bill-of-rights/
- Share stories and creative works by undocumented young people: immigrantsrising.org/stories and thingsillneversay.org
- Support undocumented artists: tinyurl.com/images-by-dreamers

About Immigrants Rising

Founded in 2006, Immigrants Rising transforms individuals and fuels broader changes. With resources and support, undocumented young people are able to get an education, pursue careers, and build a brighter future for themselves and their community. Immigrants Rising is a fiscally-sponsored project of Community Initiatives.

For more information, visit immigrantsrising.org



TOP 10 WAYS TO SUPPORT UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

1. Engage with an Open Mind

- When supporting undocumented students, it's important to know that there won't be a single answer or path for all students. Support requires ongoing investigation and collaboration with others. When you don't know something, work WITH students to find out answers so that you can share them with other students and colleagues.

2. Create a Safe Space

- Don't ask undocumented students to self-identify
- Make resources easily available for all students
- Understand that trust takes time
- Be mindful of your language; say "undocumented" rather than "illegal" and avoid terms like "alien" or "illegal immigration"
- Do all you can to identify YOURSELF as an ally/supporter; use posters, bookmarks, and stickers to make your support visible
- Use Immigrants Rising's Inclusivity Posters to prompt a discussion about immigration and the importance of classroom agreements and norms: immigrantsrising.org/inclusivity-poster

3. Learn about Relevant Institutional Policies & Legislation

- Understand admissions and enrollment policies for undocumented students
- Learn in-state tuition and state-based aid laws for undocumented students: nilc.org/issues/education/basic-facts-instate and uleadnet.org
- Stay up-to-date on the status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Encourage eligible youth to contact a legal services provider prior to renewing: immigrantsrising.org/RenewDACA
- Research local and statewide immigration-related policies that affect your students and their families
- Keep informed about proposed legislation related to immigration policies

4. Find & Advocate for Scholarships and Financial Support

- Promote a scholarship culture with Immigrants Rising's "Applying for Scholarships" resource: immigrantsrising.org/scholarshiphelp
- Help students keep track of and apply to as many scholarships as possible. Share Immigrants Rising's Lists of Scholarships that don't require proof of citizenship or legal permanent residency: immigrantsrising.org/resource/undergraduate-scholarships and immigrantsrising.org/resource/graduate-scholarships
- Advocate for scholarship providers to consider and support undocumented students.

5. Build Your Own Educator Network

- Build relationships and collaborate with other educators at your school or district
- Reach out to educators at local colleges who are supportive of undocumented students
- Add your name to Immigrants Rising's mailing list to learn about new resources, webinars and educator gatherings: immigrantsrising.org
- Connect to DEEP's National Educator Network and Campaigns: unitedwedream.org/education-justice

6. Connect Students to Undocumented Community Leaders and Role Models

- Visit MyUndocumentedLife.org, DefineAmerican.com and PHDreamers.org
- Find and connect students to local, state or national undocumented youth advocacy organizations
- Identify older undocumented students who can serve as role models

7. Involve Parents

- Educate parents about why undocumented students should pursue college
- Encourage and support good communication between students and parents. Invite parents into the college application and enrollment process
- Share Immigrants Rising's Guide for Parents of Undocumented Students (in English and Spanish)

8. Access Reputable Legal Information & Assistance

- Identify reputable, affordable legal service providers in your area: immigrationlawhelp.org
- Encourage students to use Immigrants Rising's free, anonymous, and online Immigration Legal Intake Service to learn about their possible immigration options: immigrantsrising.org/legalintake
- Refer students to Immigrants Rising's BeyondDACA.org