CSUF AB540 Task Force: Learning from Our Experiences

2012 CSUF AB540 Conference

Presented by:

Janette L. Hyder, M.S.
Counselor for Student Retention Services
and
Kandy Mink Salas, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
California State University, Fullerton
California Assembly Bill 540

- Assembly Bill 540, authored by the Assembly Member Marco A. Firebaugh (D-South Gate)
- Signed by former Governor of California, Gray Davis on October 12, 2001 (2)
- The law took effect in January 2002
- Allows any student including undocumented students who meet certain requirements to pay in-state tuition at all public colleges and universities in California

Marco A. Firebaugh
(1966-2006)

Requirements for AB 540

- Students must have attended California high school for three or more years (non-consecutive)

- Student must have graduated from a California high school or attained equivalent degree (e.g., a General Education Diploma, or GED)

- Student must be currently enrolled or registered as an entering student at an accredited institution of higher education in California

- Student must file an affidavit required by higher education institutions stating that students will apply for legal residency as soon as possible
CSU-Fullerton AB 540 Task Force

• Established in Spring 2008

• AB 540 Student Services Committee
  
  • Comprised of faculty, staff, administration and current matriculated students

• AB 540 & Undocumented Students Comprehensive Report (August 1, 2008)
  
  o Recommendations to create and/or improve policies and services in favor of CSUF AB 540/Undocumented students
CSU-Fullerton AB 540 Task Force

Recommendations

1. Create ongoing committee
2. Host an immigration conference
3. AB 540 training for front line staff
4. Develop training and advising manuals
5. Multi-language materials for outreach to the community
6. Safe Zone Program
7. Police Department policies, procedures and training
Recommendations

8. Clearinghouses for concrete information for students
9. Create survey to assess knowledge and opinion of staff
10. Create AB 540 website
11. Create physical space for students to gather
12. Eliminate need for use of driver’s license/ID card
Recommendations

13. Review departmental processes for barriers
14. Clarify the affidavit process for AB 540 students; establish an appeal process
15. Collaborate with other institutions to share best practices
16. Establish fundraising account for donations
17. Assist AB 540 students with graduate school planning
Current Goals

- Development of the Ally Training for faculty, staff, and students
- Development of an AB 540 Resource Guide and training of new faculty/staff hires
- Development of an AB 540 Conference to take place **Friday, September 28, 2012**
- Re-design of the AB 540 Website to include the new California State Law/Dream Act 130/131
California DREAM ACT AB 130 & 131

- Re-introduced by Assembly Member Gil Cedillo in 2011

- AB 130 (Signed by Governor Jerry Brown and went into effect January 1, 2012). Allows students to apply for and receive scholarships derived from non-state funds, such as private scholarships

- AB131 (Signed by Governor Jerry Brown and goes into effect January 1, 2013). Allows students who meet the AB 540 criteria to apply for and receive state financial aid
California DREAM ACT AB 130

• Signed into law on July 25, 2012
• Law became effective on January 1, 2012
• Allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to apply for and receive private scholarships administered by public colleges and universities, including:
  • Scholarships funded through private donors
  • Alumni contribution
  • Individual department efforts
California DREAM ACT AB 131

• Signed into law October 8, 2011

• Law becomes effective on January 1, 2013

• Allows students who meet AB 540 criteria to:
  
  • Apply for & receive institutional grants like UC Grant, State University Grant, Educational Opportunity Program & Educational Opportunity Services fee waivers

  • Apply for & receive financial aid, including Cal Grants and Chafee Foster Youth Grants for use at eligible and private institutions
CSU-Fullerton AB 540 Task Force

Student Resources and Support Systems

- Links Mentoring Program
- Internships Opportunities
- Legal Aid
- Chican@ Resource Center
- Educational Opportunity Program
- WoMen’s Center
Resources for Staff and Students

- Orange County Dream Team
- National Immigration Law Center
- Dream Activist – Undocumented Students Activist and Resource Network
- NASPA Latino/a Knowledge Community website
- NASPA Public Policy Division website
CSUF Student Organizations

- **Underground Dreamers/Human Services class**:  
  - Dream-A-Thon: To raise funds for scholarships

- **Alliance of Students for an Equal Education (ASEE)**:  
  - Soccer Tournament, Silent Art Auction

- **Movimiento Estudiantil Chicana/o de Aztlan (MEChA)**:  
  - MEChA Annual High School Conference  
    - Arte de la Calle

- **Links Mentoring Program (LMP)**:  
  - Works with Migrant Education conducting workshops for parents and students in the community

*These organizations consistently do workshops in the community regarding AB540*
The purpose of the AB 540 Safe Zone Sticker:

• Created by the Student Organization A.S.E.E. (AB 540 student support group)

• To create a safe environment on campus for AB 540 students
AB 540 Safe Zone Areas

- Requirement to obtain a sticker
- Offices that display the AB 540 Safe Zone Sticker

- Individuals who display a Safe Zone Sticker have completed training covering current laws and issues pertaining AB 540 students. This training is currently conducted by A.S.E.E. members.

- Advisors of the College of Health & Human Development
- Academic Departments: Chicana/o Studies, Human Services & Political Science
- Counseling and Psychology Services (CAPS)
- Chicana/o Resource Center
- WoMen’s Center
- Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
- LINKS Peer Mentoring Program
Cal State Fullerton Policy Implications

- Financial assistance
- Library laptop checkout
- Pharmacy purchases
- Police department issues
- Internship issues
- Training and informational workshops
- Safe Zone Program
- AB540 Website
AB 540 CSUF On-Line Resource Guide

Purpose

This web page is intended to provide information to faculty and staff seeking to advise "AB 540 Students" and for undocumented nonresident high school and college students seeking information about their eligibility for AB 540 and resources.

State Law

On October 12, 2001, Governor Gray Davis signed into law Assembly Bill 540 (Stats. 2001, ch. 814) that added a new section 68130.5 to the California Education Code. Section 68130.5 created a new exemption from the payment of nonresident tuition for certain nonresident students who have attended high school in California for three or more years and received a high school diploma or its equivalent. [Education Code section 68130.5]

Admission

The process for applying to Cal State Fullerton is no different for any student with the exception of completing the residency section of the application:
Contact Information

Kandy Mink Salas, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
California State University, Fullerton
(657) 278-3221
kmink@fullerton.edu

Janette L. Hyder, M.S.
Coordinator for Scholarships/Links
Mentoring Program & EOP Counselor
California State University, Fullerton
(657) 278-2288
jhyder@fullerton.edu