



## Legal Services Project Digital Toolkit

### ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT

This toolkit serves as a resource for the California Community Colleges and its partners to utilize in spreading awareness and reaching immigrant students enrolled at California community college campuses about the #FindYourAlly campaign, a component of the Higher Education Legal Services Project. We ask that you use the following messaging and sample posts to help us grow awareness of available resources and connect students with urgently needed resources.

Should you have any questions about the material or the program, please do not hesitate to contact Alonso Garcia at [agarcia@foundationccc.org](mailto:agarcia@foundationccc.org).

### OVERVIEW

#FindYourAlly is a campaign to raise awareness for the **Higher Education Legal Services Project** — an unprecedented statewide effort between the California Community Colleges, the Foundation for California Community Colleges, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and the California State University to connect immigrant students with trusted immigration legal services providers. Partner organizations are offering pro bono immigration consultations, eligibility screenings, and case management services on campus, as well as educational resources which better equip students to navigate their immigration journey and status.

There are an estimated 70,000 undocumented students enrolled in the California Community Colleges system — by far the largest population of undocumented students in the nation. To serve this significant population, CDSS has funded an expansion of the Higher Education Legal Services effort for 2021–22 to amplify the awareness campaign **specifically for immigrants enrolled in California community colleges**. Through this campaign, it is our aim that these students, and all students regardless of immigrant status, are aware of and know how to access the critical free services available to them.

## **BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF**

### **Free**

Legal services come at no cost to students, as they are covered by the State of California. Application fees for those requesting or renewing DACA status are also covered.

### **Easy Scheduling**

Students enrolled at a California community college can conveniently schedule consultations with legal practitioners by booking an appointment using this [directory](#).

### **Extended Eligibility for Students' Immediate Family**

While the program is primarily designed to serve students, immediate family members of California community college students, including parents, siblings, and/or students' children, are also eligible to receive support from our service providers.

### **Extended Eligibility for California Community Colleges Faculty, Staff, and Non-Traditional Learners**

Services are also available to support California community college faculty and staff, as well as to students with dual enrollment, in non-credit programs, and adult learners.

### **Scheduling and Meeting Convenience**

While the COVID-19 pandemic has created some limitations that may vary by campus, the program is designed to support students on site — a major benefit for students with busy class schedules and limited time or means to travel to legal service offices. This support is provided in conjunction with undocumented student support centers (e.g., Dream Resource Centers, etc.) or other liaisons/faculty/staff to provide space to privately meet with practitioners. For added convenience and safety, appointments can be held in person or online.

### **Wide Range of Services**

Common immigration legal support offered to students includes, but is not limited to, screening for different forms of relief and support with DACA renewals, family-based petitions, and citizenship/naturalization requests. While providers are not currently funded to support asylum applications or removal defense, participating providers may offer referrals to other trusted direct service organizations.

## DIGITAL MEDIA MATERIALS

Please consider sharing the below sample messaging widely on your existing communications channels.

### Sample Email

Dear [STUDENT],

Did you know that if you are enrolled at a California community college, you are eligible for FREE immigration legal services? Services are available through the Higher Education Legal Services Project — a statewide effort to connect California community college students with trusted immigrant legal services providers statewide. Students can access services such as:

- Immigration consultations
- Eligibility screenings
- Case management
- Support with DACA renewals
- Assistance with DACA application fees
- Family-based petitions
- Citizenship/naturalization requests
- And more!

All enrolled immigrant students are eligible, regardless of immigration status, with eligibility also extending to students' immediate family members including parents, siblings, and/or students' children.

If you're looking for services or have questions about immigration options, rights, or need application assistance, go to [LINK] to learn more or book an appointment — available in person or online — today!

If you have any questions about the project or want to learn more about the services provided, please contact Alonso Garcia at [agarcia@foundationccc.org](mailto:agarcia@foundationccc.org).

### Sample Texts Messages

- Enrolled at a California community college? Then you're eligible for FREE immigration legal support! #FindYourAlly today and book an appointment to access services such as eligibility screenings, support with DACA renewals, and more! [LINK]
- If you're enrolled at a California community college, you and your immediate family members are eligible for FREE immigration legal services! Appointments with trusted legal service providers are available on campuses statewide, in person or online. Schedule your consultation today: [LINK]
- #FindYourAlly today and take advantage of FREE immigration legal services now available to ALL California community college students! Providers can help answer

all your immigration questions and offer support with DACA renewals, citizenship/naturalization requests, eligibility screenings, and more! Book your appointment today: [LINK]

## Sample Newsletter Copy

A collaborative effort between the California Community Colleges, the Foundation for California Community Colleges, the California State University (CSU), and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), the Higher Education Legal Services Project is connecting immigrant students at California community colleges and CSUs with trusted legal services providers.

To serve the estimated 70,000 undocumented students enrolled in the California Community Colleges system — by far the largest population of undocumented students in the nation — CDSS has funded the expansion of this project to provide invaluable services to students, faculty, and staff which help them navigate their immigration journey and continue to excel in their education.

Under the Higher Education Legal Services Project, **all** immigrant students regardless of immigration status will be eligible for **free** legal services including, but not limited to: immigration consultations, eligibility screenings, support with DACA renewals and citizenship/naturalization requests, and individual case management.

In booking a consultation, students can also have questions about immigration status, rights, options, cases, and petitions answered by a legal practitioner.

Other benefits of this project include:

- Assistance covering \$495 DACA application fee
- Easy scheduling by booking appointments with legal practitioners through this [directory](#)
- Extension of eligibility and access to services to students' immediate family members including parents, siblings, and/or students' children
- Convenient meeting options to provide private spaces to meet practitioners both in person or online

These services come at a crucial time for immigrant students amid the uncertainty of DACA's future and the barriers immigration complications can cause towards degree completion. It is critical to ensure students are aware and can easily access and utilize these free services to eliminate barriers and uncertainties and reaffirm their chances at a successful higher education.

Learn more: [LINK]

## Social Media Posts

### Twitter

- Did you know that all @CalCommColleges students are eligible for FREE immigration legal services? As part of the #HigherEd Legal Services Project, students can schedule consultations w/ legal practitioners at campuses statewide! Learn more: [link.edu](http://link.edu) #FindYourAlly
- If you're enrolled at @CalCommColleges, you can access FREE immigrant legal services today! #FindYourAlly and book your appointment to get support with #DACA renewals, citizenship requests, eligibility screenings, and more: [link.edu](http://link.edu)
- Filing for DACA? Your @CalCommColleges campus can help cover the \$495 fee & provide FREE immigration legal services for enrolled students. Book an appointment today: [link.edu](http://link.edu) #FindYourAlly
- Want to know more about your options and rights as an immigrant, or have other questions about immigration? A legal services provider available at your @CalCommColleges campus can answer those questions today! Book a FREE consultation: [link.edu](http://link.edu) #FindYourAlly

### Facebook

- Did you know that all [California Community Colleges] students are eligible for FREE immigration legal services? As part of the #HigherEd Legal Services Project, immigrant students can schedule consultations with legal practitioners and utilize critical free services available today! Learn more: [link.edu](http://link.edu) #FindYourAlly
- If you're a student enrolled at [California Community Colleges], you can access FREE immigrant legal services today! #FindYourAlly and book an appointment for you or an immediate family member to get support with #DACA renewals, citizenship requests, eligibility screenings, and more: [link.edu](http://link.edu)
- Want to know more about immigration options, your rights as an immigrant, or have other questions about immigration? A legal services provider available on your [California Community Colleges] campus can answer those questions today! Book a FREE consultation: [LINK] #FindYourAlly
- Filing for DACA? As part of your [California Community Colleges] FREE immigration legal services, you can have the \$495 filing fee covered regardless of income. Book an appointment to consult with a legal practitioner and access more services to help you on your immigration journey: [LINK] #FindYourAlly