

In-State Tuition for All High School Graduates Resolution
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To see if the Town of Arlington will adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS 14,000 undocumented immigrants ages 3 through 17 are enrolled in Massachusetts public schools, and another 26,000 ages 18–24 live in the state [based on 2012–2016 U.S. Census data].

WHEREAS federal law nor Massachusetts law prohibits the admission or enrollment of undocumented immigrants at institutions of higher learning.

WHEREAS police officers and court officers in Massachusetts lack the authority to hold a person under a civil immigration detainer, when that person would otherwise be released from custody.

WHEREAS Massachusetts has 15 community colleges, nine state universities, and five campuses of the University of Massachusetts.

WHEREAS community colleges are responsible for workforce development and through partnerships with business and industry, develop job training, retraining, certification, and skills improvement.

WHEREAS Governor Healey announced the MassReconnect program which includes FREE community college for students who are over age 25.

WHEREAS DACA students who graduated from MA high schools are eligible for in-state tuition and fees at Bunker Hill Community College by submitting the following documents: C-33 work permit (Employment Authorization Documentation), I-797 (Notice of Action), & Proof of Massachusetts residency.

WHEREAS each state university places a special emphasis on teaching and lifelong learning and promotes a campus life that fosters intellectual, social, and ethical development.

WHEREAS the UMass system's mission is to "provide an affordable education of high quality and conduct programs of research and public service that advance our knowledge and improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth".

WHEREAS enrollment in UMass' five-campus public university system is declining.

WHEREAS 20 states and the District of Columbia permit students who meet certain criteria to pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities, regardless of immigration status.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we endorse allowing all Massachusetts high school graduates to benefit from in-state tuition or act on anything relative thereto

Sources:

<https://www.mass.edu/system/aboutsystem.asp>

https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/EL-factsheet2018-Massachusetts_Final.pdf

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/state-profiles/state/demographics/MA>

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/state/MA>

<https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2017/11/15/immigration-and-higher-ed-advisory.pdf>

<http://masscases.com/cases/sjc/477/477mass517.html>

<https://maurahealey.com/issues/massreconnect/>