



Dear Student,

IDEAS at UCLA, created in 2003, is a support network for undocumented students at UCLA. In addition, the organization runs a community service project to increase awareness of the AB-540 law, manages fundraisers to award scholarships to students, collaborates with similar organizations across the state and nation, and provides a socially-conscious environment to engage in open dialogue concerning immigrant issues.

Each year 65,000 undocumented students graduate from a high school in the United States with more than 25,000 graduating from California. Unfortunately only 5-10% of these students pursue higher education, even though the passage of Assembly Bill 540 in California in 2001 made higher education more accessible to undocumented students by allowing them to pay in-state tuition at California public colleges. Many undocumented students are often discouraged from applying to college out of fear of deportation or other legal issues, uncertainty on how to pay, and not being able to readily use the degree after graduating.

Fortunately, access to higher education is possible and the ability for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (D.R.E.A.M.) Act and/or a Comprehensive Immigration Reform has a high potential of passing. The D.R.E.A.M. Act would allow undocumented students in the United States to obtain a path toward legalization, and will therefore allow them to put their degree into practice. Hence, students should not give up, but rather have great motivation and hope for their own futures.

The purpose of this letter is to cordially invite you to attend our:

3rd Annual
Immigrant Youth Empowerment Conference
"Indivisible, with Education and Access for all"
At UCLA
Ackerman Grand Ballroom
308 Westwood Plaza
Los Angeles, Ca 90024
Sunday, May 30, 2010
8am-6pm

The conference will be a day-long event which will consist of various workshops to educate, motivate, and increase participant self-efficacy through skill development in activism, organizing efforts, and usage of available resources in order to advocate for one's educational rights.

By attending the conference you will:

- Acquire information and get updates on: AB-540, DREAM Act, and Comprehensive Immigration Reform
- Meet different AB540 Student Organizations
- Be eligible for the IYEC Scholarship

Please **RSVP by MAY 2, 2010** by filling out an application at [www. ideasla.org](http://www.ideasla.org). If you have any questions please email us at ideas@ucla.edu with the header: IYEC2010. We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Sincerely,

Ivan Amelco

Claudia Lara

Ruth Luna

Laura Ochoa

Wilber Prada

IDEAS at UCLA/AB-540 Project Directors 2009-2010