

## Florida's In-State Tuition Waiver for Dreamers: What You Need to Know

In February 2023, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis announced a set of [legislative proposals](#) on immigration, including a measure to strip in-state tuition access from Dreamers. The passage of this measure could impact more than [40,000 undocumented students](#) enrolled in higher education in [Florida](#).

### What is Florida's In-State Tuition Waiver for Dreamers?

In 2014, Florida's then-Gov. Rick Scott signed [House Bill \(H.B\) 851](#), allowing students who are undocumented, both with and without DACA, to pay in-state tuition rates at state colleges and universities by using out-of-state tuition waivers. Undocumented students are not eligible for federal financial aid, including Pell grants and federal loans, nor are they eligible for Florida's financial aid programs including the Bright Futures Scholarships and need-based aid.

The in-state tuition waiver allows undocumented students who have grown up and gone to school in the state of Florida to pay in-state tuition fees at state colleges and universities (see *below for in-state versus out-of-state tuition comparison*). To qualify, these students must meet the following [requirements](#):

1. Attend a secondary school in Florida for at least 3 consecutive years before graduation;
2. Apply for enrollment in an institution of higher education within 24 months after high school graduation; and
3. Submit an official Florida high school transcript as evidence of attendance & graduation.

### A Comparison of In-State Tuition vs. Out-of-State Tuition in Florida

Institution	<a href="#">UF</a>	<a href="#">FSU</a>	<a href="#">UCF</a>	<a href="#">FIU</a>
<b>In-State Tuition</b>	\$6,380	\$5,616	\$6,368	\$3,084
<b>Out-of-State Tuition</b>	\$28,658	\$18,746	\$22,466	\$9,283

### Benefits of Keeping the Waiver for Dreamers

- [Strengthens Florida's economy](#). The state's college students are more likely to live and work there, generating more tax revenue, consumer spending, and creating jobs. Florida's undocumented residents [paid \\$1.4 Billion in taxes in 2019](#), and 94% of DACA-eligible Dreamers were employed.
- [Bridges Florida's workforce gaps](#). Dreamers are studying and working in key economic sectors, including health and medicine, STEM, and business fields.