

8 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

1

DO NOT INQUIRE ABOUT A STUDENT'S IMMIGRATION STATUS

Students may have legitimate fears about disclosing this information. Educators and other personnel should not make assumptions about students' immigration status.

2

USE INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

such as undocumented student," "undocumented immigrant," "unauthorized" or "illegalized," "people without documents," or "people without legal status." The term "illegal alien" can make students feel unwelcome.

3

LEARN THE FACTS

Every academic year, 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high school in the United States. Currently, around 5-10% of these 65,000 high school graduates move on to a higher education institution (Gonzales, 2009). Maryland allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition under certain conditions.

4

DONATE

Donate to fundraisers such as the Terp Crisis Fund or the Undoc Students UMD Opportunity Fund to help undocumented students on our campus (both linked under the "Actions You Can Take" dropdown below).

5

CONVEY ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

in discussing the topic if a student chooses to disclose their immigration status

6

ESTABLISH WELCOMING SPACES

while respecting student privacy, where undocumented students have the opportunity to learn and engage with their peers without fear or intimidation

7

BE SENSITIVE

to the limits that undocumented students face in your classroom activities and discussions. Not every student is eligible to register to vote, to travel out of the country, or feels comfortable discussing their family's migration story.

8

SHARE RESOURCES

Include links on your syllabus or canvas page for students to access for themselves, peers, loved ones, etc., on their own terms and at their own discretion.

