



Welcome and Introductions:

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Owning My Stripe: A Brave Chameleon Asks the Right Questions



How did Oma feel walking out of the Owl's office?

The Path to Higher Education: Undocumented & Undeterred

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**“It’s always ok not to know, but
it’s never ok not to ask.”**



- Showing up is a practice.
- Uncertainty is a certainty.
- Communication and confidentiality are key.
- We won’t know until we try.

Agenda

Just as important as the answers
we find are the questions we ask.

- **Terms to Understand**
- **Undocumented Immigrants**
- **Our Roles: How We Show Up**
- **College Admissions & Financial Aid Support**
- **Staying Up to Date**
- **DACA Support**
- **Overview of Handouts:**
 - *Key References, Reputable Information, Resources*
 - *Recommendations for Effective Advising*
- **Q&A**
- **Presenter Contact Information**

Terms to Understand



Undocumented:

Refers to an individual who was not born in the U.S., who resides in the U.S. without government authorization, and who has not subsequently obtained an immigration status. The circumstances (stories) surrounding this term are myriad and indescribable. It has become a term used to replace derogatory words like “ill****” and “alien.”

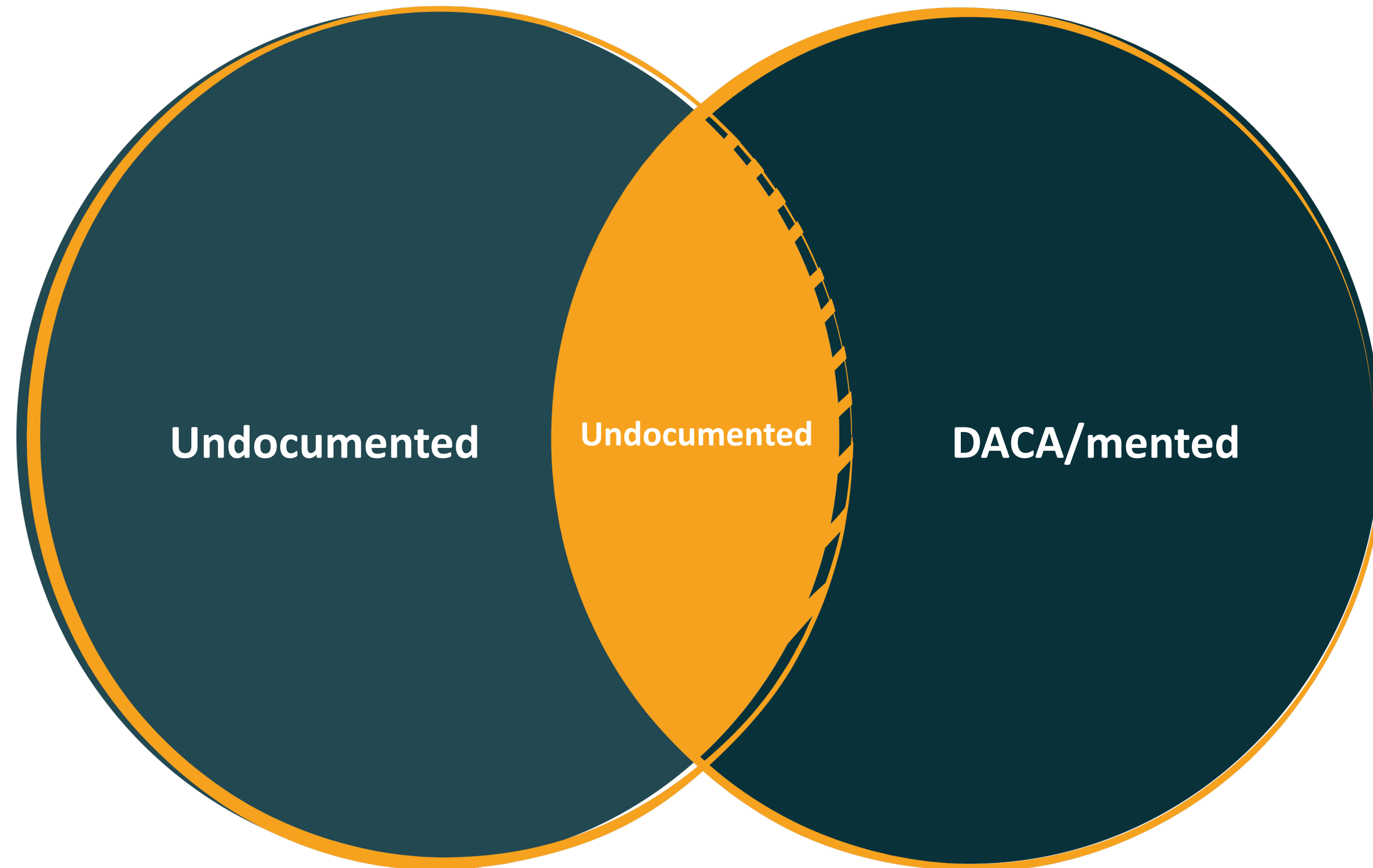
Terms to Understand



DACA/mented:

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is a form of administrative relief which protects certain eligible immigrants who came to the U.S. when they were children. DACA gives undocumented immigrants: **1)** protection from deportation, and **2)** a work permit. DACA and work permit must be renewed every two years (\$495). It is not a status. It does not provide a pathway to citizenship.

Remember: DACA isn't an immigration status, and it doesn't grant any benefits except for those that come with protection from deportation and work authorization. DACA has been life changing for hundreds of thousands, but ultimately remains unjust, insufficient, and inaccessible to millions.



Terms to Understand



Mixed Status:

Refers to a household in which one or more individuals hold Citizenship or Lawful Permanent Residence while one or more individuals is Undocumented, with or without DACA.

Terms to Understand



DREAMers:

Usage of this term differs nationally, state-to-state, region-to-region. The ever-fluid nature of language requires that we follow the lead of our students. The language will change again.

Undocumented Immigrants

Nationally



- 11 million undocumented people
- 2.8 million undocumented people arrived before they were 18 years of age
- 600,000 undocumented students are enrolled in grades K-12
- 611,000 DACA recipients
- 1.3 million people in the U.S. live with a DACA recipient
- 21,000 high school seniors hold DACA
- A majority of the 100,000 undocumented high school seniors graduating in 2023 are ineligible for DACA since they arrived after June 15, 2007

**Have you worked with undocumented students in the past?
How/In what areas were you able to support them?**



Our Roles: How we show up. Best practices.

- Counselors are resourceful, and that's what students need us to be.
- Being undocumented is not a monolithic experience.
- Best practice is to be open and visible, and to identify ourselves to all students.

Our Roles

- **Inform and invite.** Create a college-going climate that's inclusive of students of varying immigration statuses.
- **Contextualize information and timelines.**
- **Avoid and be accountable for flawed/harmful language:**
 - the *Ill-word*, “*Unauthorized*”
 - “*Unlawful/ly present*”
 - “*Dreamer*”
 - “*No-fault-of-their-own*”

Our Roles: How we show up. Best practices.

- Hold space for undocumented students.
 - This doesn't mean involving ourselves as self-proclaimed allies.
 - Consider and make known what space, time, and resources you have at your disposal to hold for students.
- Always be sure to ask for student input first.

College Admissions & Financial Aid Support



College Fit

- Consider whether you are being student-centered. Whose goal is this? Consider all the factors important to them.
- Allow students to live out their questions and make their own decisions.
- Investigate colleges. Think outside the box. Do the Google Test.
- What's the website look like? Does it center DACA? Are they inclusive of undocumented students who do not hold DACA?

Major

- When advising a student choosing a major, keep in mind later possible requirements including background checks (SSN, ITIN), licensure, and certification (nursing/healthcare, education).
- Consider broad majors that have many possible avenues forward, especially those that lend themselves to freelancing opportunities for students without work authorization.

Financial Aid

Counselors can help undocumented students by:

- Understanding the value of scholarships as a replacement for federal/state aid;
- Encouraging students to apply for national and local scholarship opportunities; and,
- Reminding students that loans are sometimes an option available to undocumented students, but should be well researched

Communication & Confidentiality

- Counselors can also assist in communicating with college staff and administrators. Ask for a student's consent each time.
- Safeguarding student information from other students as well as colleagues
 - Families
 - Stories (they don't belong to us, they're shared)
- Follow up with undocumented students: consistency and continuity—for as long as we can, to the extent we can, understanding we don't always control such factors as time and space (encounters).

Staying up to date:



- Social media is an invaluable tool because it provides undocumented students and their counselors: real time updates on immigration policy; resources such as scholarships, college profiles, student contributors; and sources of motivation, inspiration, connection, and direction.
- Follow important accounts via platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

DACA Support

- Despite all the news about DACA things unfortunately remain effectively the same. Renewal applications will be processed but initial applications are still not being accepted (since July, 2021).
 - Update: online filing (unitedwedream.org)
- If a student does identify themselves as a DACA recipient, counselors can assist in connecting students with relevant and timely information.
- DACA was not enough; this remains so today.
- DACA is not a cause for celebration.
 - It is not available to all who would-be eligible and changes are few and far between.
 - Psychological impacts are long-lasting, so be sure to center students' experiences and mental health.
 - As in all cases, follow students' lead.

For more
information



- Handouts Overview:
 - Key References, Reputable Information and Resource Links
 - Recommendations for Effective Advising
 - Advising Hours

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Thank you!

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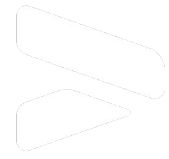
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All of You!





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