

# UndocuSTEM



HEFAS' UndocuSTEM is a new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program in partnership with the STEM Success Program, to support and provide resources to make STEM more accessible for undocumented students.

The UndocuSTEM aims to support undocumented students in the fields of STEM through accessibility, opportunity, and resources by creating a program that promotes equity, racial justice, leadership and career development.



# Get Involved!

HEFAS is a great way to participate in social justice, civic engagement, and leadership projects. Everyone is welcomed! Become a member or volunteer today.



De Anza College



HIGHER EDUCATION FOR AB540 STUDENTS



All undocumented students can go to college!

## Contact Us



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# HEFAS



HEFAS (Higher Education for AB 540 Students) is an institutional and educational program that provides free services and creates a safe space for all with an emphasis on undocumented and AB 540 students. We are dedicated to empowering students, building leaders, promoting social justice, and advocating for higher education.

For more information, go to our website:  
<https://www.deanza.edu/hefas/>

## Our Mission



Our vision is to provide a safe space for undocumented and low-income students, to give them, their parents, educators, and community members alike, the tools needed to reach higher education regardless of the barriers they might face in their individual lives.

## Our Story



Undocumented students lead efforts to launch HEFAS with these mayor events:

- 2009 - An undocumented student club was formed called IMASS (Integral Movement for AB 540 Student Success)
- 2011 - Students win 9k from mobilize.org to start HEFAS
- 2013 - The HEFAS program was inaugurated, students get an office space
- 2015: First Annual HEFAS Summit was organized
- 2021 - HEFAS wins a grant to start the UndocuSTEM Program
- 2022 - New center space at the East Cottage!

## Policies

- Non-Resident Tuition Exemption Form (AB540):
  - Allows undocumented students and non-California residents to qualify for in-state tuition.
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA):
  - Allows some individuals who entered the country as minors, and either entered or remained in the country illegally, to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and to be eligible for a work permit. Currently only renewals are being accepted.
- CA DREAM Act:
  - The CA Dream Act Application allows students to apply for state financial aid for programs in higher education.
  - [dream.csac.ca.gov](http://dream.csac.ca.gov)

## Who is considered undocumented?

Undocumented people in the United States are foreign nationals who have come or been brought to this country without legal documentation as well as those who have overstayed their once active Visas. Students who fall under this criteria may be eligible for in-state tuition under California's AB540 bill - both in community colleges and universities.

## Free Services

- Safe space
- Educational workshops
- Computer and printing access
- Textbook and calculator rentals
- Financial aid and scholarship information
- Legal information and referral
- Volunteer opportunities
- Peer mentoring
- Peer tutoring

## Resources

- Free Legal Services
  - [findyourally.com](http://findyourally.com)
- Financial Aid
  - [FinancialAid@deanza.edu](mailto:FinancialAid@deanza.edu)

