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## Recommendations and Resources for Professionals Working for Institutional Policies that Increase Undocumented Students' Access to Higher Education

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The National Forum has organized numerous national summits, strategy meetings, and campus discussions, convening individuals from all over the country to work through the challenges of the topic. One consensus that has emerged from these meetings has been the need for best institutional practices and other informational resources to be provided to institutional leaders. Our most recent research enabled us to provide these recommendations and resources.

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### National Forum Recommendations for Institutional Professionals

Professional	Recommendation
<b>Admissions Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know your institution's policy. Far too many admissions professionals did not know their institution's policy.</li> <li>• At a public institution within an inclusive environment, make sure your institution is taking advantage of the ability to grant admission to undocumented students.</li> <li>• At Catholic institutions, take advantage of the <a href="#">new momentum</a> to create inclusive admissions policies for undocumented students by proposing new policies.</li> </ul>
<b>Financial Aid Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At a public institution in an inclusive environment, make sure your institution is taking advantage of the ability to grant in-state tuition to undocumented students.</li> <li>• At private institutions, take advantage of the ability to create private forms of financial aid to offset the inability of undocumented students to receive federal and/or state aid.</li> </ul>
<b>Outreach Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give appropriate information to high school-age undocumented students concerning which institutions have inclusive environments to help ensure success.</li> <li>• Create training practices and materials to inform counselors at your institution, high school counselors and others working to increase college access on ways to help undocumented students.</li> </ul>

<b>All Professionals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know the position of your association. <a href="#">NASFAA's position on access to higher education for undocumented students</a> helps create a sense of legitimacy around the topic. National Forum research indicates a higher likelihood of an inclusive policy when the institution is aware of NASFAA's position.</li> <li>• When trying to implement a new policy, look to your colleagues in similar policy contexts and locations as a means of understanding how other institutions have created inclusive policies for undocumented students.</li> </ul>
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These organizations can provide institutional professionals with relevant information and, in some cases, assistance or advice when questions arise with undocumented students seeking to attend college.

### ***RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION and ASSISTANCE***

**[Educators for Fair Consideration](#)**: A resource for educators, administrators, and students to find valuable videos, literature, outreach programs, and other resources related to activism. This organization specializes in helping undocumented students find educational and employment opportunities, and provides legal assistance.

**[National Immigration Law Center](#)**: Provides information on the law and the employment and public benefits of immigrant rights. The center provides the latest state legislation relative to undocumented students' access to postsecondary education.

**[DreamActivist.Org](#)**: A comprehensive website containing state-by-state policy breakdowns, information about current activism, legislation reform, and much more.

**[Regional and State Associations](#)**: In addition to NASFAA, financial aid professionals have six regional associations. Within these regional associations, state-specific organizations exist to offer more information on regional and state policies and resources.

**[Coming Soon! The Storm Center](#)**: A communications hub designed to provide up-to-date information regarding state and institutional policy environments, as well as cultivate advocacy for administrators, faculty, and undocumented students facing opposition when trying to provide or obtain postsecondary benefits. Users can request support from a large network of allies and partnering organizations with the attempt to alleviate pressures at the institutional level. The Storm Center, a project currently being developed by the National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good, will be launched online in the **Fall of 2012**.