

Title/Subject: Undergraduate Admission and In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students

Applies to: faculty staff students student employees visitors contractors

Effective Date of This Revision: July 1, 2015

Contact for More Information: Enrollment and Student Services

Board Policy Administrative Policy Procedure Guideline

BACKGROUND:

Federal and state law does not prohibit the admission of undocumented students, nor does it require individuals to prove citizenship in order gain admission to institutions of higher education. Rather, these policies are developed at the sole discretion of the individual colleges and universities and vary greatly. In addition, institutions choosing to admit undocumented students maintain different/unique policies for determining undocumented students' eligibility for in-state and out-of-state tuition rates. Admissions policies are unique by nature as they are intended to attract and admit individuals who best align to the institution's mission.

As of fall 2014, more than half of the four-year public institutions in Michigan had policy language concerning undocumented students and guidelines for determining eligibility for in-state tuition rates. Most four-year public institutions in Michigan admit undocumented students but not all provide them with in-state tuition rates. Until this time, Central Michigan University (CMU) has not had a policy governing admissions of undocumented students.

PURPOSE:

As an institution committed to education, global citizenship, and the progress of underrepresented groups in society, it is necessary to address the needs of the growing population of undocumented students seeking to further their academic pursuits at the collegiate level and to offer that opportunity at Central Michigan University. The policy outlines the requirements an applicant must meet to be considered for admission as a domestic, undergraduate student at CMU.

DEFINITIONS:

An **undocumented student** is a foreign national who: (1) entered the United States without inspection or with fraudulent documents; or (2) entered legally as a non-immigrant but then violated the terms of his or her status and remained in the United States without authorization (as defined by the National Immigration Law Center).

Many college-bound undocumented students:

- lived in the United States most of their lives
- entered the United States by way of their parents at a young age
- learned English
- attended elementary, middle, and high school in the United States

Authority: George E. Ross, President
History: New Policy
Indexed as: Admissions; Undocumented Students

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- excelled academically in high school and want to pursue a college education

The undocumented status of a student exempts them from applying for federal student aid using the FAFSA, but this does not have to be a barrier to attending and succeeding in college.

POLICY:

Undocumented students may be admitted to CMU as a degree-seeking, undergraduate student through the Undergraduate Admissions Office if they meet stated, established criteria for admission and the following conditions:

First Time in Any College (FTIAC):

- currently live in the United States (student must submit Proof of Residency via their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival, or DACA, paperwork);
- attended high school in the United States for at least three years at the time of graduation from high school (proof will be submitted on final high school transcript, with the University reserving the right to rescind admission, as it does for all admitted students); and,
- apply to the University within two years following their high school graduation.

New Transfer:

- currently live in the United States (student must submit Proof of Residency via their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival, or DACA, paperwork);
- attended high school in the United States for at least three years at the time of graduation from high school (proof will be submitted on final high school transcript, with the University reserving the right to rescind admission, as it does for all admitted students);
- attended an accredited 2-year or 4-year community college, college or university in the United States; and,
- apply to the University within two years following last successful college enrollment term.

In-state Tuition (On-campus students only)*

Admitted undocumented students residing in Michigan may receive in-state tuition rates if they meet the following criteria:

FTIAC:

- must provide proof of attendance at a Michigan high school for at least three years; and
- must achieve a cumulative high school GPA of 2.75 or higher.

New Transfer:

- must provide proof of attendance at a Michigan high school for at least three years; and
- must achieve a cumulative community college or college GPA of 2.75 or higher and 56 earned credit hours from a Michigan community college, college or university.

Further, admitted undocumented students living outside of the State of Michigan may receive in-state tuition rates by meeting the criteria for the CMU President's Award, as may any prospective domestic undergraduate student.

Any undocumented students admitted to the University and not meeting the established criteria for in-state tuition will be charged the out-of-state tuition rate.

**Note: Global Campus has one standard rate regardless of residency status or form of delivery (on-line or in-person)*

Merit-based Scholarships

Undocumented students may be considered for CMU merit-based and special talent scholarships; however, they are not eligible for federal financial aid as determined by the U.S. Department of Education

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PROCEDURE:

Undocumented students will apply and applications will be processed through Global Campus or the Undergraduate Admissions Office respectively, based upon the student's intended location of attendance.

Central Michigan University reserves the right to make exceptions to, modify or eliminate this policy and or its content. This document supersedes all previous policies, procedures or guidelines relative to this subject.