

Laws & Policies Improving Access to Higher Education for Immigrants

Last updated JUNE 2026

State	Year enacted	Bill number	Requirements: Years of high school in state	In-state tuition	State financial aid	Privately funded scholarships	Links to bill text, fiscal notes, analyses, and testimony, where available
AZ	2022	SCR 1044 , approved by voters in Proposition 308	2 years	Yes	N/A	N/A	SCR1044.docx (azleg.gov)
CA	2001	AB 540	3 years of high school coursework, provided that the student attended a total of 3 years at an elementary and/or secondary school in California, OR a total of 3 years of full-time attendance or credit at a California high school, adult school, or community college	Yes	Yes	Yes	California State Legislature - AB 540
	2011	AB 130					California State Legislature - AB 130
	2011	AB 131					California State Legislature - AB 131
	2012	AB 1899					California State Legislature - AB 1899
	2014	AB 2000					California State Legislature - AB 2000
	2014	SB 1210					California State Legislature - SB 1210
	2017	SB 68					California State Legislature - SB 68

	2019	SB 77					California State Legislature - SB 77
	2022	SB 1141					California State Legislature - SB 1141
CO	2013	SB 13-033	1 year (removing affidavit & strengthening privacy)	Yes	Yes	N/A	Colorado General Assembly
	2019	HB 19-1196					Colorado General Assembly
	2022	HB 22-1155					Colorado General Assembly
	2025	SB 25-276					Colorado General Assembly
CT	2011	HB 6390	2 years	Yes	N/A		Connecticut General Assembly
	2015	HB 6844					Connecticut General Assembly
	2018	SB 4					Yes
DC	2017	Bill 21-0422	3 years	Yes	Yes	N/A	D.C. ACT 21-650
HI	2013	Section 6-9	1 year in Hawaii; 3 years in U.S.	Yes	Yes	Yes	University of Hawaii Board of Regents Policies
IL	2003	HB 60	3 years Effective July 1, 2026: 2 years high school or 3 years including community college, if graduated/GED, AA degree or 60 credits of coursework	Yes		Yes	Illinois General Assembly - HB 60
	2011	SB 2185					Illinois General Assembly - SB 2185
	2019	HB 2691					Illinois General Assembly – HB 2691
	2024	SB 461					Illinois General Assembly - Bill Status for SB0461

KS	2004	HB 2145	3 years	Yes	N/A	N/A	Kansas Legislative Archive
MD	2011	SB 167	2 years of paying Maryland taxes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Maryland General Assembly
	2018	SB 532					Maryland General Assembly
	2020	HB 262					Maryland General Assembly
	2026	HB 1530					Maryland General Assembly
MA	2023	Chapter 28	3 years	Yes	Yes	N/A	Massachusetts Legislature
	2024	Section 22 FY 25 Budget					Section 22: Tuition Equity Technical Corrections FY25 Budget (mass.gov)
MN	2013	SF 1236	3 years	Yes	Yes	Yes	Minnesota Legislature
NE	2006	LB 239	3 years	Yes	N/A	N/A	Nebraska Legislature
NV	2021	SB 347	High school graduate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Nevada Legislature
NJ	2013	SB 2479	3 years	Yes		N/A	New Jersey Legislature
	2018	S 699			Yes		New Jersey Legislature
	2022	S 3119					New Jersey Legislature
NM	2005	SB 582	1 year	Yes	Yes	N/A	New Mexico Legislature
NY	2002	SB 7784	2 years	Yes			New York State Assembly
	2019	S1503/ A2003			Yes		New York State Assembly
	2019	S1250/A782				Yes	New York State Assembly

OR	2013	HB 2787	3 years in Oregon high school; 5 years in elementary or secondary school in U.S.	Yes		N/A	Oregon Legislature	
	2015	SB 932					Yes, financial aid, scholarships and grants	Oregon Legislature
	2018	SB 1563					Oregon Legislature	
	2019	SB 859					Oregon Legislature	
RI	2011	Residency Policy S-5.0	3 years	Yes	N/A	N/A	Board of Governors for Higher Education Policy Manual	
	2021	SB 990					Rhode Island Legislature	
TX	2001	HB 1403	3 years (* law was repealed in June 2025, but litigation is ongoing)	Yes	Yes	N/A	Texas Legislature - HB 1403	
	2005	SB 1528 (amends HB 1403)					Texas Legislature - SB 1528	
UT	2002	HB 144	3 years	Yes	N/A	Yes, for UT high school graduates	Utah State Legislature - HB 144	
	2015	SB 253					Utah State Legislature - SB 253	
	2019	HB 260					Utah State Legislature - HB 260	
VT	2024	S 191	Institutions to develop rules	Yes	Yes	N/A	S.191 (vermont.gov)	
VA	2020	SB 935	2 years	Yes	Yes (effective Aug. 1, 2022)	N/A	Virginia State Legislature	
	2021	HB 2123					Virginia State Legislature	
	2022	HB 526					Virginia State Legislature	

WA	2003	HB 1079	Complete and obtain a high school diploma or equivalent, and lived in state for at least one year prior to being admitted to higher education institution	Yes	Yes	N/A	Washington State Legislature
	2014	SB 6523					Washington State Legislature
	2018	HB 1488					Washington State Legislature
	2020	SB 6561					Washington State Legislature
	2021	SB 5194					Washington State Legislature