

The DREAM Act

The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act

Sponsored by U.S. Senator Richard G. Lugar and U.S. Senator Richard Durbin

What is the DREAM Act?

The DREAM Act would provide immigration relief to a select group of students and allow them to become permanent residents if they came to the United States as children (before the age of 16), have been in the U.S. since 2005, have good moral character, and attend an institution of higher learning or enlist in the military for at least two years. In addition, the legislation would not allow states to grant in-state tuition rates to alien students nor would students be eligible for Pell Grants. The DREAM Act would provide young people with an incentive to move toward permanent residency while pursuing further education or serving our country in the U.S. Armed Forces. Students would have no rights to sponsor other family members for citizenship or legal status. Additionally, students would not be eligible for welfare or healthcare benefits.

Why Does Sen. Lugar Support the DREAM Act?

Senator Lugar supports this legislation because it encourages young immigrants to continue their education and earn a degree or serve our country in the armed forces. Current census figures indicate that Indiana is now home to more than 317,000 Hispanics. If enacted, the DREAM Act would allow undocumented college-bound immigrants to apply for a conditional legal status. Approximately 50,000-70,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools each year; however, without legal status, it is difficult for them to attend college, acquire a job or join the military. Nationally, more than thirty percent of Hispanic students drop out of high school before graduation.

Additional Supporters of the DREAM Act

"...this important legislation is critical not only to the individual futures of thousands of undocumented young people, but to this nation's ability to remain an economic power as well."

Michael A. McRobbie, President, Indiana University

"The life, learning, and career opportunities created by these [DREAM Act] steps would have an enduring impact on students and their families ... Amid the unresolved broader debate in this country about immigration issues, the DREAM Act will empower people one by one to turn aspirations into actions."

France A. Cordova, President, Purdue University

"There is a rich precedent supporting the service of non-citizens in the U.S. military. ... The DREAM Act represents an opportunity to expand this pool, to the advantage of military recruiting and readiness."

Defense Secretary Robert Gates

"...Without the ability to attend college or the military many of these children have no dream and therefore drop out of high school, which is simply a tragedy in the U.S."

Tim Solso, Chairman & CEO, Cummins Inc.

A full list of DREAM Act supporters may be found at: <http://lugar.senate.gov/issues/dream>

Evansville	Fort Wayne	Indianapolis	Valparaiso	Washington, D.C.
101 NW MLK Blvd Rm. 122 Evansville, IN 47708 (812) 465-6313 P (812) 421-1883 F	6384A W. Jefferson Blvd. Covington Plaza Fort Wayne, IN 46804 (260) 422-1505 P (260) 424-1342 F	10 W. Market Street Suite 1180 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 226-5555 P (317) 226-1883 F	175 W. Lincolnway Suite G-1 Valparaiso, IN 46383 (219) 548-8035 P (219) 548-7506 F	306 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-4814 P (202) 228-0360 F

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How To Qualify Under the DREAM Act

Eligibility Requirements

- 1) Have good moral character, pass a background check and are not ineligible for criminal or national security reasons.
- 2) Must have entered the U.S. before turning 16 years of age and been physically present in the U.S. since 2005.
- 3) Graduated from high school, earned a GED, or admitted to an institution of higher education.
- 4) Pay a \$525 fee.
- 5) Paid all taxes owed.
- 6) Be under the age of 30.
- 7) Learn English and demonstrates an understanding of U.S. history.

Reasons for Ineligibility:

- 1) Possesses a criminal background
- 2) Presents a national security or terrorist threat
- 3) Commits a felony or more than 2 misdemeanors
- 4) Is likely to become a public charge
- 5) Engages in voter fraud or unlawful voting
- 6) Commits marriage fraud
- 7) Abuses a student visa or
- 8) Poses a public health risk.

Legal status would be conditional until the student has completed one of the following within five years: acquired a degree from an institution of higher education (which includes associate or trade school degree or completed two years of bachelor's degree) or has been a student in good standing for at least two years in a higher education program; served in the U.S. Armed Services for at least two years and if discharged, received an honorable discharge. Failure to maintain good standing would result in the revocation of the conditional status.



Dear Friends:

Serving Hoosiers is my foremost priority. In my Indiana state offices, I maintain a staff of Constituent Services Specialists who possess unique expertise regarding government agencies and programs. The Constituent Services Specialists provide the following services, among others:

- Facilitate communication with federal, state and local agencies,
- Identify appropriate resources for assistance,
- Ensure attention to constituent inquiries and advocate due process of constituent claims with federal agencies,
- Clarify federal regulations and procedures, and
- Provide general information.

Some of the areas in which my office assists include: immigration, tourist visas, passports, taxes, customs, housing, education, social security, and veterans' benefits. This is a partial listing of services my staff provides, and I encourage you to contact my Indiana offices for information or assistance on government-administered programs.

My constituent services team stands ready to assist you. Please feel free to write or call my main office in Indianapolis at 1180 Market Tower, 10 West Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2964, (317) 226-5555. Or you may contact my regional staff in your area: Evansville (812) 465-6313; Fort Wayne (260) 422-1505; and Valparaiso (219) 548-8035. Please let me know if I may be of service to you.

Currently serving on the following Senate Committees:

- Foreign Relations Committee, Ranking Member
- Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Lugar".

Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator