Re: In-state tuition opportunity for students without lawful immigration status

Dear High School Counselor:

The Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice is a nonprofit organization that advocates for laws and policies that support vulnerable and excluded Kansans so all residents of our state can live up to their full potential.

We hope you will share the information in this letter and attached flyer[[1]](#footnote-1) with any students in your high school who do not have lawful or permanent immigration status. Those students may not be aware that they may be eligible for in-state tuition at Kansas colleges.

Kansas law (K.S.A. 76-731a) allows certain non-citizen residents to receive in-state tuition and fees at any public university, municipal university, community college, or technical college in Kansas. To qualify for in-state tuition under the Kansas statute, a student with an unlawful immigration status (or a legal nonpermanent immigration status)[[2]](#footnote-2) must meet three criteria:

1. The student must have attended a Kansas high school for at least three years,

2. The student must have graduated from a Kansas high school (or received a GED in Kansas), and

3. The student must file an affidavit with the college that says the student will apply to legalize the student’s immigration status as soon as the student becomes eligible to do so. To get a copy of the affidavit to sign, the student should contact the college’s admissions or registrar’s office.

We hope to raise awareness about this opportunity among Kansas high school students. There are many students at Kansas colleges who graduated from Kansas high schools but who are not receiving in-state tuition. Many other Kansas high school graduates have decided not to attend college because they did not know they are eligible for in-state tuition.

Please contact us at the phone number or address below if we can be of assistance in raising awareness in your school about this very important opportunity. Thank you for your work making higher education a reality for Kansas students.

Sincerely,

 

Benet Magnuson, Executive Director

1. The flyer is also available on our website at: <http://www.kansasappleseed.org/in-state.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. If the student currently has a valid student visa, or is eligible for in-state tuition in another state, the student is not eligible for in-state tuition in Kansas. The full Kansas statute (K.S.A. 76-731a) is available online at: http://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch76/076\_007\_0031a.html [↑](#footnote-ref-2)