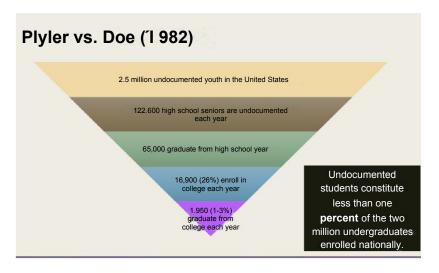
## **Support for Undocumented Students**

As the current administration continuously targets the undocumented community, undocumented students have begun to organize for additional support from their

universities. Undocumented students are already barred from federal financial aid, certain scholarships, jobs on campus and other burdens that come with not having a social security number if they do not have DACA status. Since the rescinding of DACA, 120 DACA recipients lose their status every day and that number is expected to grow over 1,000. Every year about 56,000 undocumented students enroll in



higher education and only 1-3% of those students graduate. In Washington state alone there are an estimated 1,900 undocumented students in higher education. Because undocumented students do not receive the support they need, they are three times more likely than any other group of students to drop out.

Many college students depend on loans to be able to fund their education but undocumented students can not take out federal loans and face difficulties accessing private loans, which leaves some undocumented students to pay out of pocket for their education. The creation of a self sustaining loan program in Washington state would secure access to the state's higher education system for undocumented students and provide support that citizen students already receive. The University of California already offers this support through the DREAMer Loan Program, which was approved with the passing of Senate Bill 1210 in 2014. The DREAMer loan program originally began with \$5 million in loan access to all UC schools expanded to \$10 million this September.

Breakdown of the CA DREAMer Loan Program:

- -\$7 million for community college students
- -\$2 million for Cal States
- -\$1 million for UCs
- Loan rate tied to the federal subsidized student loan rate of 4.45% for (2017-18)
- Loan repayment 6 months after graduation
- Maximum of \$20,000 of loans
- Max loans of \$4,000/year, \$20,000 total, repayable within 10 years

The loan program should also include loans accessible to students who are pursuing a two-year degree. The loan maximum should also be higher to include additional expenses such as books and supplies.

The ASWWU should also support House Bill 1488, which failed to pass the legislature last session but will be reintroduced this upcoming session. HB 1488 expands in state financial aid opportunities to undocumented students, especially those without DACA status. This is most important now with the rescinding of DACA. Every day since September 5th, 2017 an estimated 120 undocumented youth in the DACA program lose their status and that number is expected to grow to be over 1,000 after March 5th, 2018. Many undocumented students have been able to use their DACA status to have more access to in state financial aid opportunities and many undocumented students do not have DACA status to begin with. There are many groups of undocumented students who are limited or excluded from in state financial aid opportunities and H.B. 1488 would expand in state financial aid to include more undocumented students. Furthermore, we advocate for lowering the residency requirement for in state financial aid from three years to one. The three year residency requirement limits opportunities for undocumented students who moved to Washington state in the last two years, even if they graduated from a high school in Washington state.

Many undocumented students live with the anxiety of being away from their families, consistently fearing deportation throughout their lives. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has stated they do not have the authority to come onto sensitive

## **Enforcement Actions at or Focused on Sensitive Locations Page 2**

- schools (including pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools, post-secondary schools up to and including colleges and universities, and other institutions of learning such as vocational or trade schools);
- · hospitals;
- churches, synagogues, mosques or other institutions of worship, such as buildings rented for the purpose of religious services;
- the site of a funeral, wedding, or other public religious ceremony; and
- a site during the occurrence of a public demonstration, such as a march, rally or parade.

locations including schools and university campuses. On our own campus we have seen this to not be true. Universities should be committed to protecting all of their students. Requiring schools, community colleges and universities in Washington to have a legal team ready if any of their students were to be detained is crucial in protecting all students. UC Berkeley has already taken the right step towards helping

undocumented students, providing free legal services to undocumented students and their families. In state this can also be seen at Washington State University. We should also including international students who are at risk of falling out of legal status.

## **Legal Support at Cal**

The East Bay Community Law Center, a clinic of Berkeley School of Law and the Undocumented Student Program have partnered to provide free legal support and resources about immigration law to undocumented students and undocumented family members at Cal.

Legal support and a required protocol when ICE comes onto campuses should be created to protect students. If an institution is willing to bring undocumented and international students in they must also be willing and ready to support them.

Tacoma is home to one of the largest private prisons in the United States--The Northwest Detention Center. The Northwest Detention Center is owned by GEO Group Inc., which is ran by many investment managements including The Vanguard Group and BlackRock. The Tacoma detention center can detain up to 1,575 Undocumented immigrants as it has tripled in size since 2004. GEO Group Inc. has faced many civil charges for mistreating people who are detained, poor conditions in the centers, and many deaths around the nation. As the Tacoma city council gathered to discuss the future of the detention center many advocate groups against the facility decided to ask for something more. They called for the city council to revoke NW Detention Center's business license for many reasons including poor conditions that have led to organized hunger strikes within the facility.

This Tuesday, April 25th, Tacoma City Council will meet to discuss "correctional facilities" -including the Northwest Detention Center -- and whether to limit their expansion. We call
on the Mayor, City Council, and Finance Manager of Tacoma, Washington to revoke GEO
Group's business license for the Northwest Detention Center (NWDC) due to the health and
safety violations this for-profit immigration prison poses. Until the NWDC is closed, Tacoma
City Council must also extend its emergency ordinance to limit any potential expansion of
the facility, and ensure basic testing of water, soil and airconditions.

The ASWWU should support revoking the Northwest Detention Center's business license. The people living in the center have stated many times it is not safe for them to be housed in that space. Since the GEO group is privately owned they can refuse any state public health agencies' request to ensure the safety of those detained. Many

hunger strikes within the facility and encampments outside of the detention center have occurred numerous times this past year alone. Revoking NW Detention Centers' business license will increase the safety of undocumented immigrants in Washington State and other states as well.

Furthermore, the ASWWU should support undocumented students right to work on campus. Many students across university campuses depend on a job on campus to be able to afford tuition and living costs, but undocumented students without DACA do not have this privilege. Many undocumented students are dependent on DACA to be able to work on campus but now every day 122 undocumented youth lose their DACA status.