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## DREAM ACT: TALKING POINTS

### **DREAM Act: Talking Points**

1. The DREAM Act is about fairness to high school graduates who were brought to this country unlawfully through no fault of their own, since they came with their parents. Despite achieving their high school diploma, they have no options. The DREAM Act offers them a future through education or military service to their country.
2. The DREAM Act has always had strong bipartisan support. We hope Congress puts electoral politics aside and does what's right for the lives and hopes of thousands of kids across America.
3. Another year without the passage of the DREAM Act means another graduating class of immigrant students who call America their home, having to forego their dreams of pursuing higher education.
4. The DREAM Act demonstrates the possibility for practical solutions to address a multitude of problems with the current immigration system, for the good of the country.
5. The DREAM Act highlights just one of many social and economic costs that result from the failures of the federal government to enact sweeping changes to our outdated immigration system. These are the best and brightest, but are unable to fully live up to their potential or to fully contribute to our country.
6. The DREAM Act is an investment in America's youth, and in the future workforce of America. To be competitive in a global economy, we need to invest in a skilled and educated workforce. Baby Boomers are retiring, and we need every young person in America to be prepared for the challenges that will be demanded of them in the economic recovery. Congress needs to tackle the immigration issue because it is part of the solutions we need for long-term economic recovery and growth.

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7. The DREAM Act is not a substitute for broad immigration reform, it is a component. We expect it be part of the broad reforms Congress will debate this year, based on the words and actions of the leaders in Congress as well of the President.



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### **Can DREAM students obtain federal student loans to pay for college?**

Yes. Current federal law bars unauthorized aliens from obtaining federal students loans. The DREAM Act changes this law to allow DREAM-eligible students to obtain federal student loans and participate in federal work-study programs. However, they would not be eligible for Pell Grants or other federal financial aid grants.