



Admission & Financial Aid for Undocumented Prospective Students to the Ada Comstock Scholars Program

Smith College educates women of promise for lives of distinction. A college of and for the world, Smith links the power of the liberal arts to excellence in research and scholarship, developing leaders for society's challenges. Therefore, Smith is committed to enrolling a diverse and accomplished student body, regardless of citizenship status.

Admission

- Undocumented and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students follow the procedures and requirements for first-year, transfer or Ada Comstock Scholars (non-traditional adult student) admission. They are evaluated in the same way as U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents.

Ada Comstock Scholars

- Women who are 24 or older*, a veteran or have a dependent other than a spouse are eligible to apply to Smith as Ada Comstock Scholars.
- Women who have already earned a bachelor's degree are not eligible to apply.
- Candidates are expected to present at least 48 liberal arts credits. On average, admitted students have 50 transfer credits.
- The maximum number of transfer credits is 64. Contact the Office of the Registrar for what qualifies for transfer credit.

* *Women must be at least 24 years by December 31 of the academic year in which they enter Smith (fall or spring). A student entering in January does not qualify as an Ada/independent student if she will turn 24 during her first term at the college.*

- Because we want to obtain a comprehensive picture of the student's background and experiences in the context of her school and community, we encourage undocumented and DACA applicants to disclose their citizenship status in the application.
- Undocumented and DACA students should indicate "Non-citizen" or "Other" in the citizenship field on the Common Application.
- Undocumented and DACA students may apply for either January or September admission.



Financial Aid

- Smith meets 100% of the demonstrated need of all admitted students who apply for financial aid by the published deadlines. Because federal financial aid is not available for undocumented and DACA students, Smith provides institutional, need-based financial aid in its place.
- To be considered for aid, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and other supporting materials.
- Students with DACA status can now use the Social Security Number (SSN) to complete the FAFSA in order to receive a Student Aid Report (SAR). An SAR can help demonstrate need when a student is applying for institutional and other scholarships.
- DACA students should select “No, I am not a citizen or eligible non-citizen” in response to the citizenship question on the FAFSA.
- If a student and/or spouse file taxes, the W-2 and tax returns are required.
- Undocumented students are eligible for non-federal work-study on campus. DACA students with employment authorization may also be able to find off campus employment.

Advice for DACA and Undocumented Students

“College Advising Guide for Undocumented Students” <https://www.iacac.org/undocumented/>

Other information related to DACA:

<http://www.weownthedream.org/resources/>

<https://www.immigrantjustice.org/daca-resource-hub>

<https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

For More Information

- Office of Admission: www.smith.edu/admission/
 - Office of Student Financial Services: www.smith.edu/finaid/
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