

DECEMBER, 2015

Washington Student Achievement Council

### **BACKGROUND**

Effective July 1, 2003, HB 1079 allows any student, including presumed undocumented students who meet specific criteria, to pay in-state tuition at Washington's public colleges and universities. To qualify for resident tuition, students must complete an affidavit affirming they have met the following conditions:

 Resided in Washington State for three (3) years immediately prior to receiving a high school diploma, and completed the full senior year at a Washington high school.

or

 Completed the equivalent of a high school diploma and resided in Washington State for the three (3) years immediately before receiving the equivalent of the diploma.

#### and

 Continuously resided in Washington State since earning the high school diploma or its equivalent.

In addition to certifying they have met these conditions, the affidavit states that the student will file for permanent residency at the earliest opportunity the student is eligible. The student must also indicate a willingness to engage in other activities necessary to acquire citizenship.

# HB 1079 Survey Results

The table and figures that follow show **new** affidavits submitted under HB 1079 for each year since the bill took effect in 2003. Residency officers collect this data at the time of submission for each fall through summer quarter. For example: fall 2014, winter 2015, spring 2015 and summer 2015 for this reporting year.

In order to align state and federal law, certain U.S. citizen students and non-immigrant visa holders who meet HB 1079 requirements for high school graduation and continuous presence in Washington may qualify for resident status for tuition purposes under the provisions of HB 1079. These categories are reflected in the information that follows.

#### Total New Annual HB 1079 Affidavit Enrollments Increase

Table 1: Total New HB 1079 Annual Enrollments, 2003 – 2014

	Total New Enrollments	Presumed Undocumented	Eligible US Citizens	Eligible Visa Holders
2003-041	103	25	0	78
2004-05	373	291	2	80
2005-06	487	338	16	133
2006-07	432	320	6	106
2007-08	706	542	20	144
2008-09	673	521	28	124
2009-10 <sup>2</sup>	639	524	26	89
2010-11	719	556	52	111
2011-12	852	645	53	154
2012-13	966	811	55	100
2013-143	1,244	1,101	63	80
2014-15	1,727	1,482	84	161
Total Since 2003	8,921	7,156	405	1,360

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Community and Technical College data unavailable for 2003-04

- Total new enrollments for 2014-15 increased 39 percent (n=483) over 2013-14, when they increased 29 percent (n=278).
- Presumed undocumented students submitting affidavits increased 35 percent (n=381). This compares to last year's increase of 36 percent, the largest yearly increase.
- Eligible U.S. citizens increased 33 percent (n=21). This is the largest number of U.S. citizens using the affidavit.
- Eligible visa holders increased from 80 to 161 (101 percent) after decreasing the past two years. This year's change is primarily due to increases in the number of students in the following categories submitting affidavits: B visa (n= 6 to 18), H visa

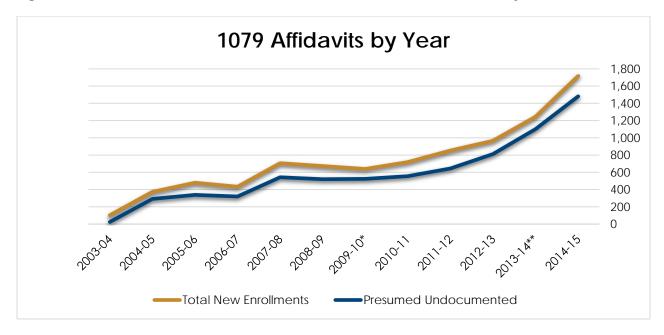
 $<sup>^2</sup>$  E, H, and L visa holders qualify for resident status effective July 1 2009 [HB 1487 - 2009 codified as RCW 28B.15.012(2)(f)]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Presumed undocumented students became eligible for State Need Grant effective June 12, 2014 (SB 6523 2014 c 1 § 1)

(n= 2 to 14), and Other/unknown visa holders (n = 9 to 59) that includes refugees (n = 4 to 17) and other visas with low totals (A, G, K, and M).

The number of presumed undocumented students submitting affidavits increased 35 percent (n=381 to a total of 1,482.)

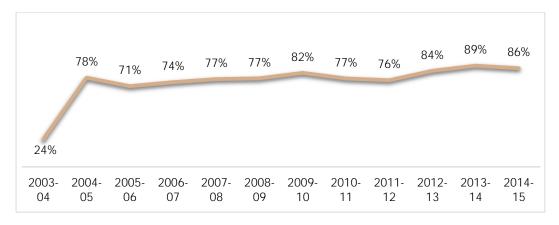
Figure 1: Total New 1079 Enrollments and Presumed Undocumented, by Year



<sup>\*</sup>E,H,L visa holders qualify for residency status effective July 1, 2009 (HB 1497 2009 c 220 § 1)

Although the number of presumed undocumented students submitting affidavits increased, the percentage compared to overall submissions decreased from 89 percent to 86 percent due to increases in eligible U.S. citizens and eligible visa holders.

Figure 2: Percentage of Undocumented Students' Affidavit Submissions



<sup>\*</sup>CTC data unavailable.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Presumed undocumented students became eligible for State Need Grant effective June 12, 2014 (SB 6523 2014 c 1 § 1)

Eligible visa holders increased 101 percent (from 80 to 161) following decreases of 20 and 35 percent the two previous years. This was primarily due to an increase in the number of students in B, H, and Other/Unknown visa categories (including refugees) submitting affidavits.

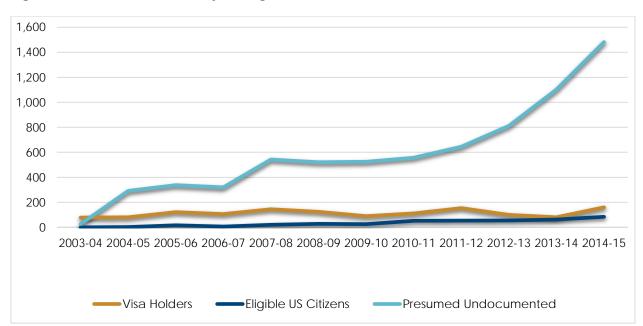


Figure 3: HB 1079 Affidavits by Immigration Status

Community and technical college students continue to make up the largest percentage of total affidavits submitted, decreasing slightly from 90 to 87 percent due to larger percentage increases in baccalaureate affidavit submissions.

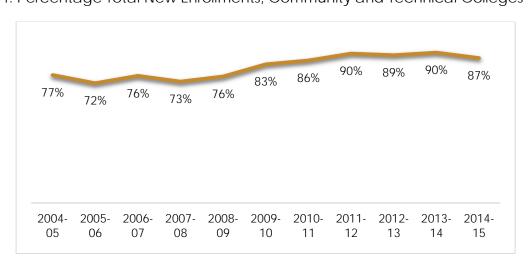


Figure 4: Percentage Total New Enrollments, Community and Technical Colleges

The percentage of affidavits submitted by student category varies between the community and technical college and the public baccalaureate sectors.

13% 12% 5% 22%

13% 5% Wighter Schitzers

Total Resulted Public Baccalaureate Community and Technical College

Figure 5: Percentage of 2014-15 Total Affidavits Submitted, by Sector and Category

# **CONTACT THE AUTHOR**

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