

DREAM ACT
(Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)

What is the DREAM Act?

This proposed law would provide immigration relief to a select group of students and allow them to become permanent residents if the following elements apply:

1. They came to the United States as children under the age of sixteen; and
2. They are long-term United States residents (five years or more); and
3. They have good moral character; and
4. They must be under the age of thirty-five (35); and
5. They must not be inadmissible or deportable except for specifically enumerated exceptions; and
6. They have graduated from high school or earned a G.E.D. and then attended an institution of higher learning for at least two years, or have served honorably in the United States military for at least two years.

The bill was introduced on the Senate side of the United States Congress as S. 729 on March 26, 2009 by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN) and Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL). The bill must be enacted by Congress before it becomes law.

It is estimated that the DREAM ACT could affect as many as 630,000 aliens presently living in the United States.