LIFE AFTER COLLEGE: A GUIDE FOR UNDOCUMENTED YOUTH

IMMI RISING

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

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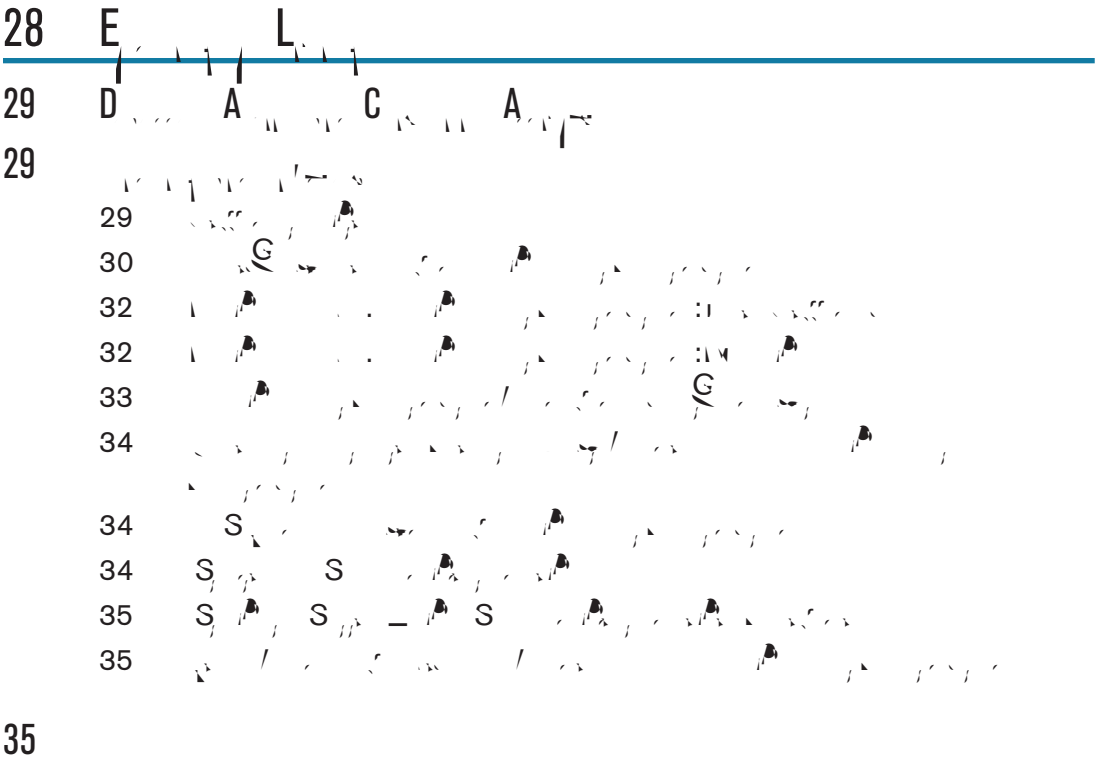
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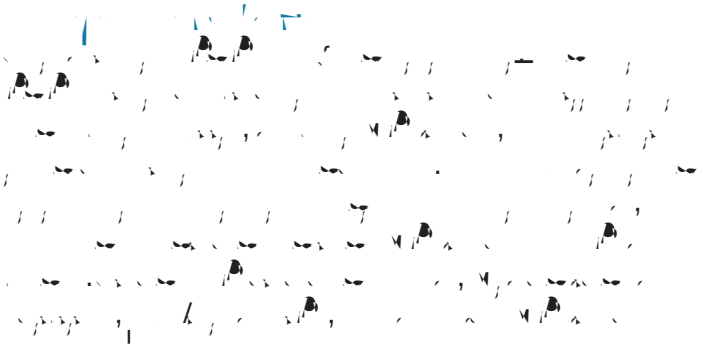

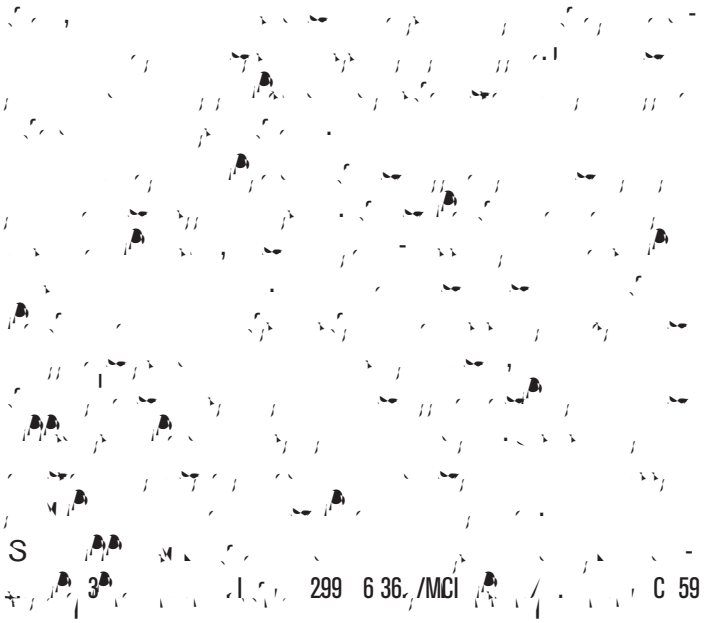

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Fundamentals of Engineering Exam,

Land Surveyor-In-Training (LSIT):

Professional Engineer:

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Internships help you understand and evaluate whether or not what you are doing is what you really want to do. You don't want to spend four years in school and end up doing nothing related to it. Apply for anything, any piece of experience counts. Even if it is not related, it will give you an insight as to what you can potentially be doing. Also, get to know different people from different engineering fields even if they are not in your field–networking is key! All my engineering jobs came out of networking…One of my professors worked in an engineering firm, and through him I was able to get an internships as soon as I graduated from college–as a matter of fact, I began work the Monday after I graduated! (

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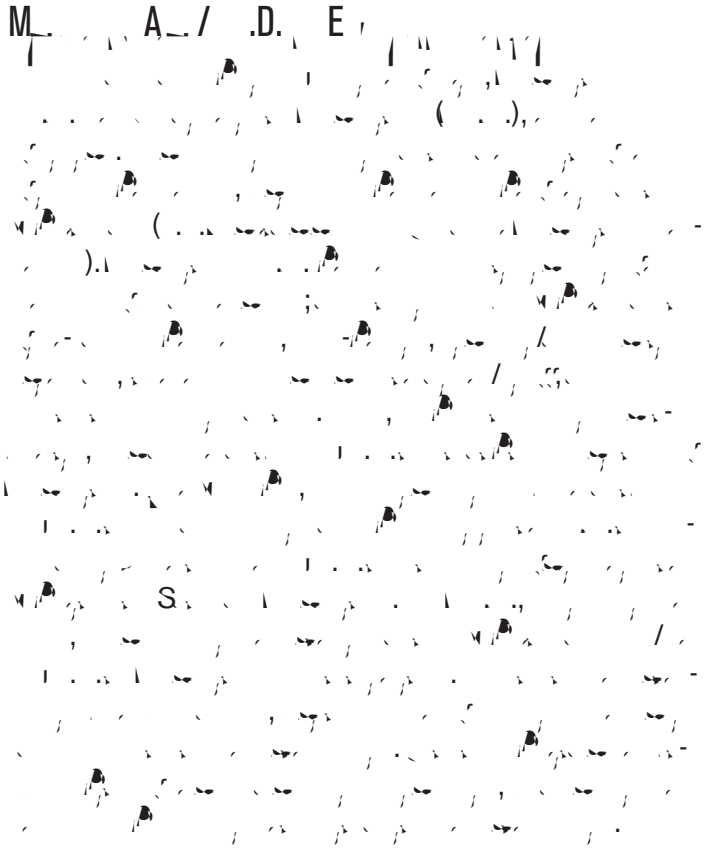

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The fact that I had a lot of experience in the field already helped me a lot when searching for a job. It's something I highly recommend to other students, to

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Effective networking is difficult for anybody. But keep in mind the following: recognize that the person you are trying to network with is a person, not just a contact that is going to 'get you something'; always feel confident about yourself and your ability to positively contribute; finally, do not get down on yourself if things do not turn out the way you planned them with regard to networking. They often do not. The best relationships may emerge when you least expect it. (S

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Establishing a business is about pushing your personal limits, learning from your mistakes and taking risks. AB540 students know well how to do this. Don't underestimate yourself and your abilities. You have skills and abilities that no other student at your college or university has. Market them and make a decent living out of it. (. , .S. , S S , S).

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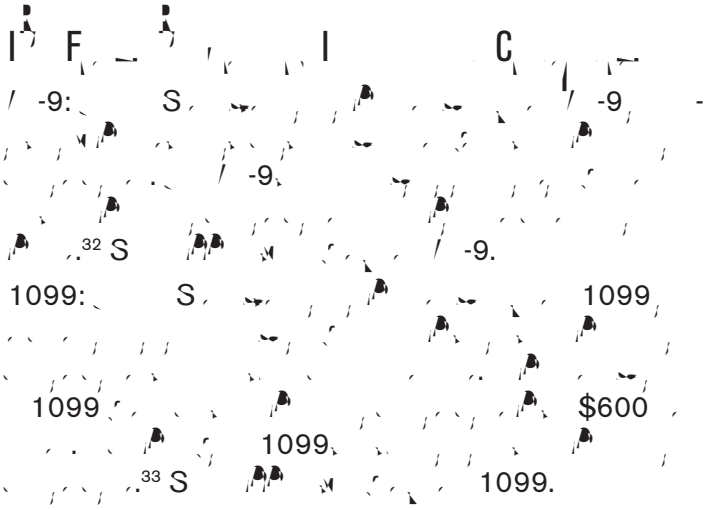
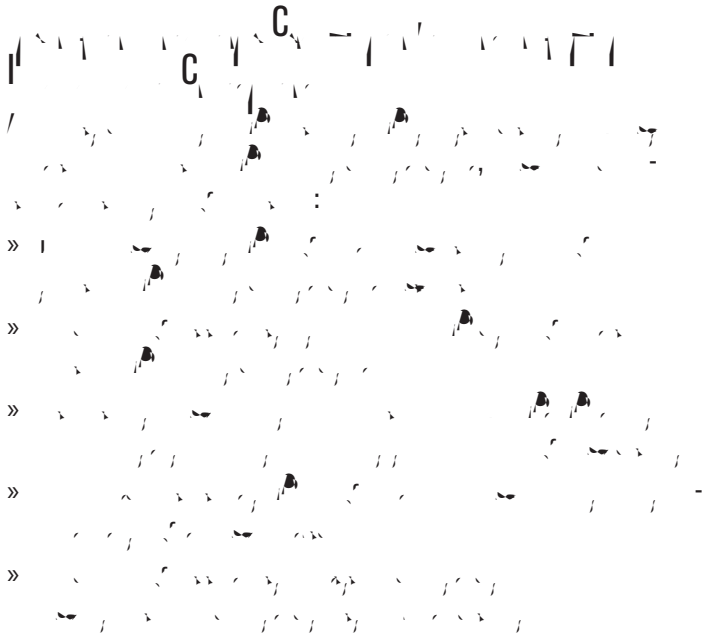
field. But if I factor in my limitations, the only reason I am doing this is because of my legal status. (

Getting job offers is difficult; knowing how to approach it is the key. (

One of the greatest opportunities you can look forward to is working for yourself. You should be creative with what you do and not end up in a dead-end job. If you work for yourself, you do not have to wait seven years to get promoted. It's all a matter of personality. Ask yourself, what type of lifestyle do I want to live? Keep in mind that the skills you've learned getting through college are transferrable to starting your own business. (





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I think students and recent graduates tend to follow the herd and say, let's go apply for a job. I would highly recommend starting your own business and being an entrepreneur. Start you own business in whatever your passion may be, whether it is tutoring or making chocolates. You don't need much other than hard work and some starting money, but a good business idea and hard work is most important. Also, it's a great idea to partner with other graduates, because you can't do it alone. (, .S. ,)

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Starting the business is not difficult; it's maintaining the business that gets tough. You need financial assistance when starting business to do things right. Managing the business and working with clients can get hectic. I had access to business mentors, but they were not available for me all the time. I did not have enough experience on how to run the business when I started, but now that I have more time I want to seek other resources and other people with experience. (. , .S. , S S , S)

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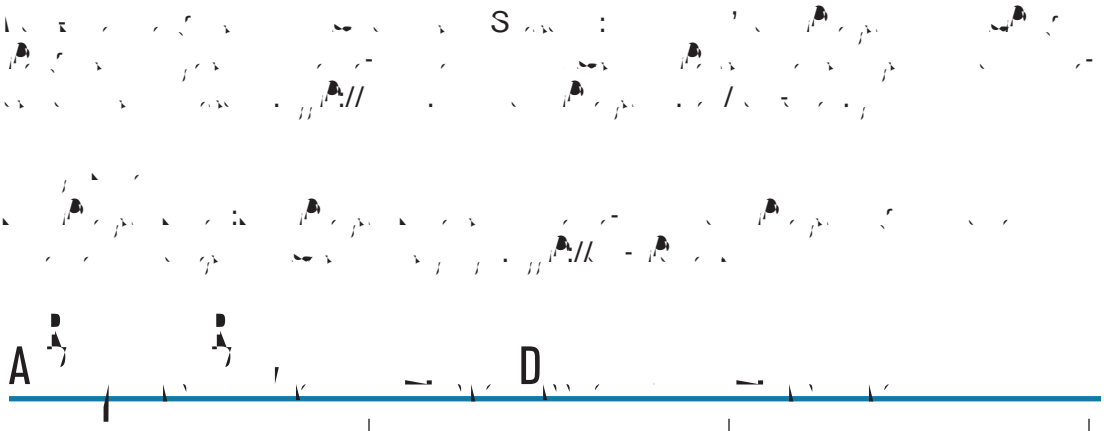

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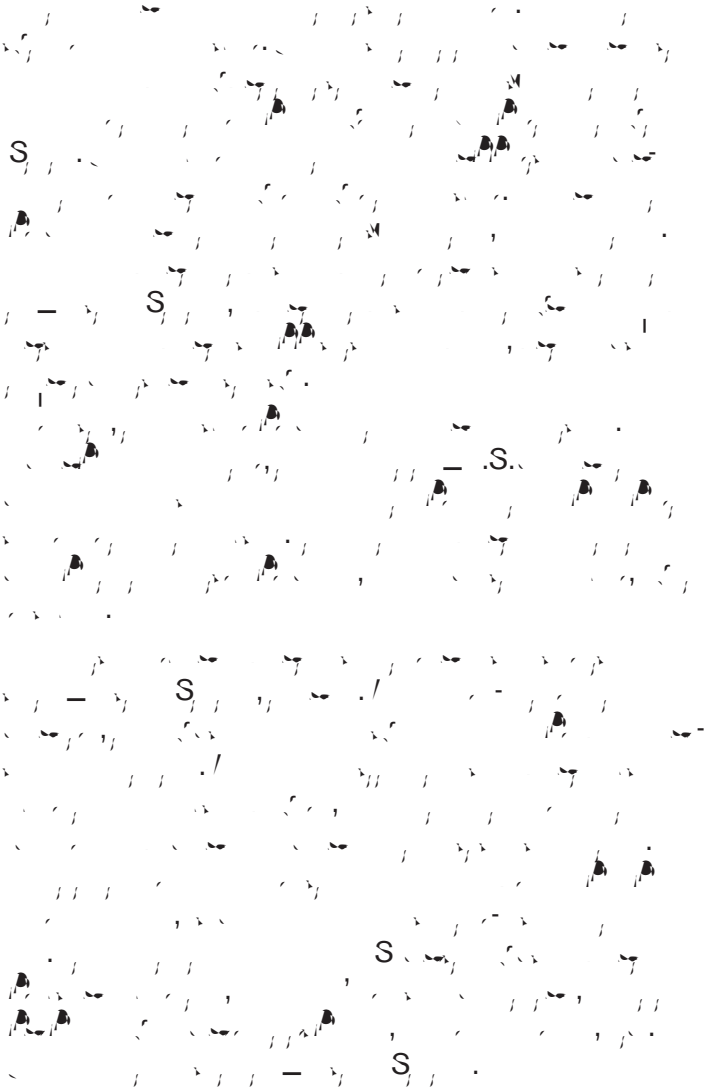

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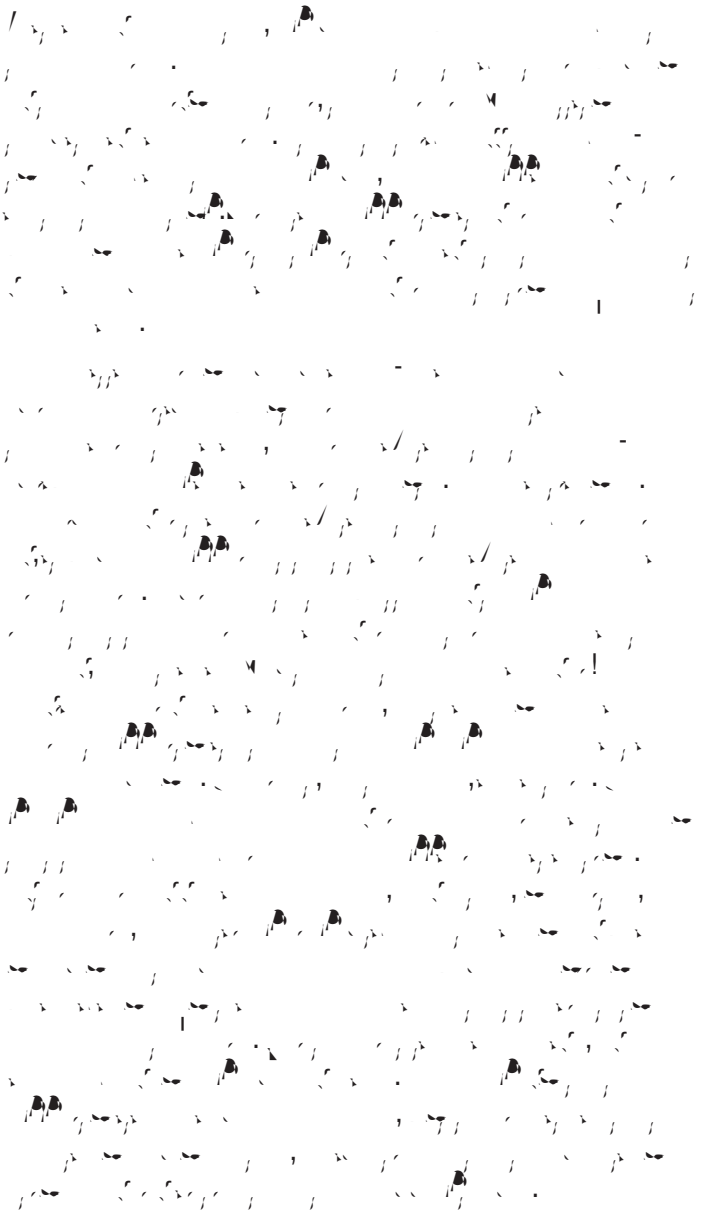

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Even though I was done with the academic portion of college, I was not done with wanting to live the college life. For the first six months I kept going back every weekend or several days a week. I did not know how to deal with life after college. (

After a few months it hit me. The reality settled in, and I thought, what am I going to do? I felt sad and depressed. I started working random jobs full time. The difficult part was adjusting to the new routine of daily life and becoming a responsible adult. It was important for me to stay positive and really understand that my situation was only temporary and I would be doing greater things when the right time came. (

I did not know how to deal with emotional health, especially because I have had to be so strong. My personality has become so strong, and it is very difficult for me to talk about my feelings. Being undocumented, being a woman, being first generation, and being passionate about doing things have all had a negative impact on my health. It is draining to have to put up a front. I'm very good at isolating myself while staying strong and encouraging others to move through the system and not lose themselves. We have expectations from everyone: our community, family, friends, ourselves. (

We are agents of change. The structure that exists to exclude, exploit, and get rid of us can also be challenged and transformed. We have the capacity and agency as human beings to transform reality and society. (

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You just have to remind yourself that you can do it and there is no need to stress out all the time. When you stress out, it only hurts you. Surrounding yourself with people who care about you and who are positive is very helpful. It is important to accept the things that are out of your reach at the moment and remind yourself that you can do it. (
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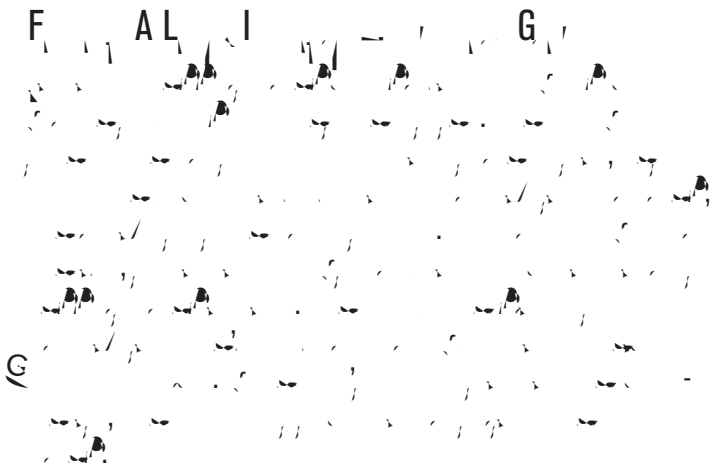

I am more than happy to be part of a community and offer what I can to take care of others. I come from a very communal and family-based culture, and I see value in that. (*, .S. S , S , S* *)*

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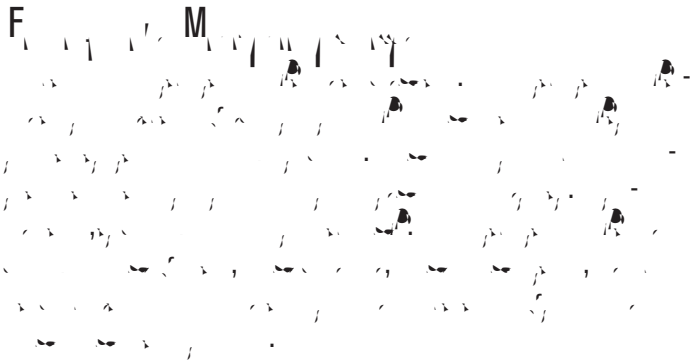

It's all about finding contentment in life and how you define success in life. If you measure your life by the number of degrees you have, your career or money, well you're always going to fall short because those things are never going to satisfy you. (Elijah Oh, R.N.)

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There were places where I wasn't supposed to exist, but I found a way to exist… I have enough belief in myself that I know I can create something. The only thing I could ever do wrong is to not do anything at all. If there is ever going to be failure in my life it will be because I gave up. (*, .S. S , S* *)*

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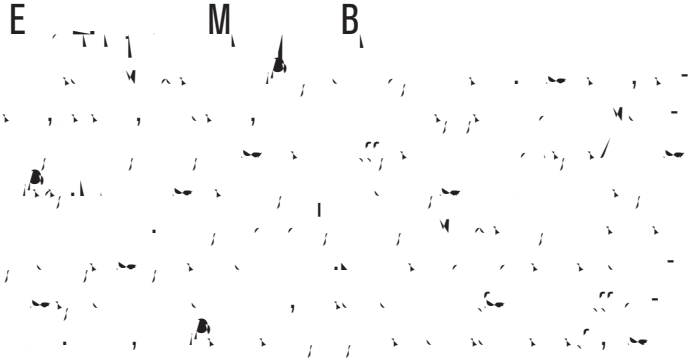
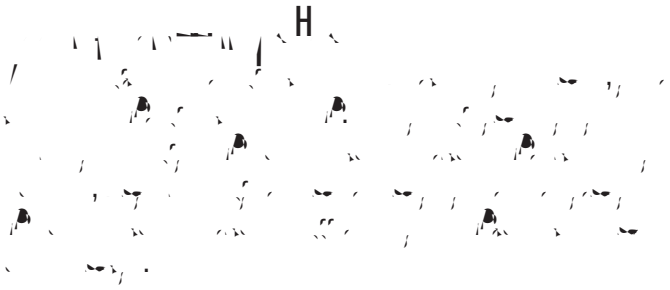


Recent graduates should make themselves useful. Many of them are just sitting at home thinking I can't get a job or I can't go to school. I say, get over it; you can't do anything about being undocumented. Do something to get our mind off it, even if it means applying to a job every day, taking dance classes, going to the park with a friend, or sitting in a class just to learn. (S)



In the DREAM Act debate, people talk about the financial burden, but rarely do they talk about what happens in our heads, what happens when you are called an illegal, what happens when you have an identity that you don't want. I always have to tell myself that I can do it because there is always something in the back of my head that does not allow me to easily view myself on an equal platform with someone else who has already made it. I constantly tell myself that it's possible, that I'm human, that I have the same capacity and the same body parts as any other person. It's all in our heads. (S , S)

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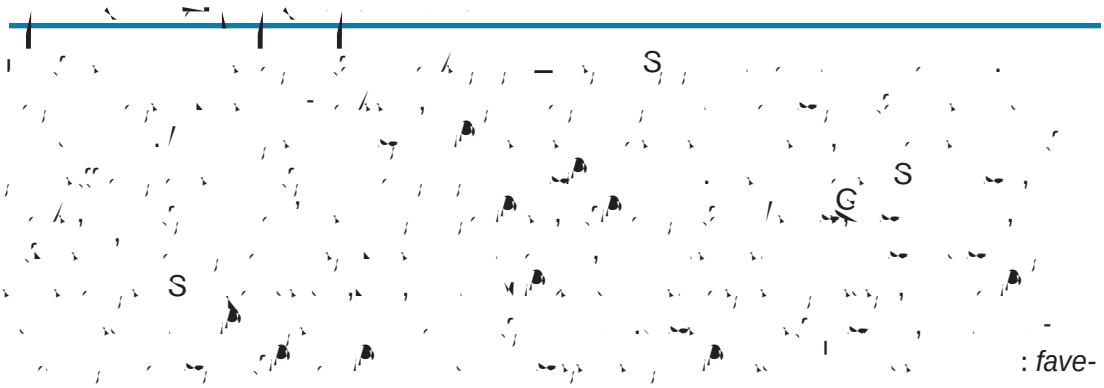

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In an effort to maximize the strength of your graduate school recommendation letters, you should provide your recommender with a packet that includes the following:

☐ Copy of Current Resume or Curriculum Vitae (make sure that all your employment and internship positions have detailed descriptions of (-2-165-17.796 (pcof.037 T661 0 Td[de)3(t)-4 (ai)6(l)5 (ed)D (l)dt (o5 Tc 0es6(r)e)3(t)-4 (ai

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Services, Immigrant Rights & Education Network (SIREN)
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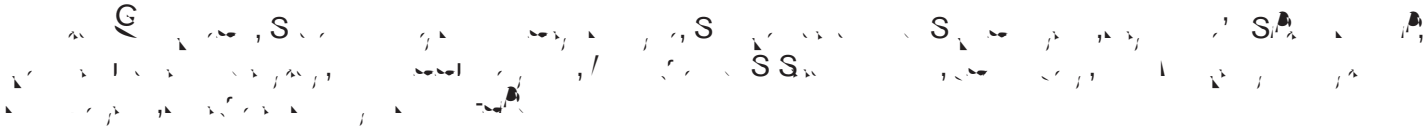

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Form **W-7**
(Rev. January 2010)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number

► **For use by individuals who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.**

OMB No. 1545-0074

Before you begin:

- ***Do not submit*** *this form if you have, or are eligible to get, a U.S. social security number (SSN).*
- *Getting an ITIN does not change your immigration status or your right to work in the United States and does not make you eligible for the earned income credit.*

Name

1a First name	Middle name	Last name	
1b First name	Middle name	Last name	

Name at birth if different . . ►

City or town, state or province, and country. Include ZIP code or postal code where appropriate.

Foreign (non-U.S.) address

Street address, apartment number, or rural route number. **Do not use a P.O. box number.**

9595 ☐ VOID ☐ CORRECTED

PAYER'S name, street address, city, state, ZIP code, and telephone no.	1 Rents $	OMB No. 1545-0115	**Miscellaneous Income**
	2 Royalties $	Form **1099-MISC**	
	3 Other income $	4 Federal income tax withheld $	**Copy A For Internal Revenue Service Center** File with Form 1096.
PAYER'S federal identification number / RECIPIENT'S identification number	5 Fishing boat proceeds $	6 Medical and health care payments $	
RECIPIENT'S name	7 Nonemployee compensation $	8 Substitute payments in lieu of dividends or interest $	For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the **2011 General Instructions for Certain Information Returns.**
Street address (including apt. no.)	9 Payer made direct sales of $5,000 or more of consumer products to a buyer (recipient) for resale ► ☐	10 Crop insurance proceeds $	
City, state, and ZIP code			
Account number (see instructions) / 2nd TIN not. ☐	13 Excess golden parachute payments $	14 Gross proceeds paid to an attorney $	
	16 State tax withheld $ $	17 State/Payer's state no.	18 State income $ $

Form **1099-MISC** Cat. No. 14425J Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service

Independent Contractor Agreement

Between
(Company)

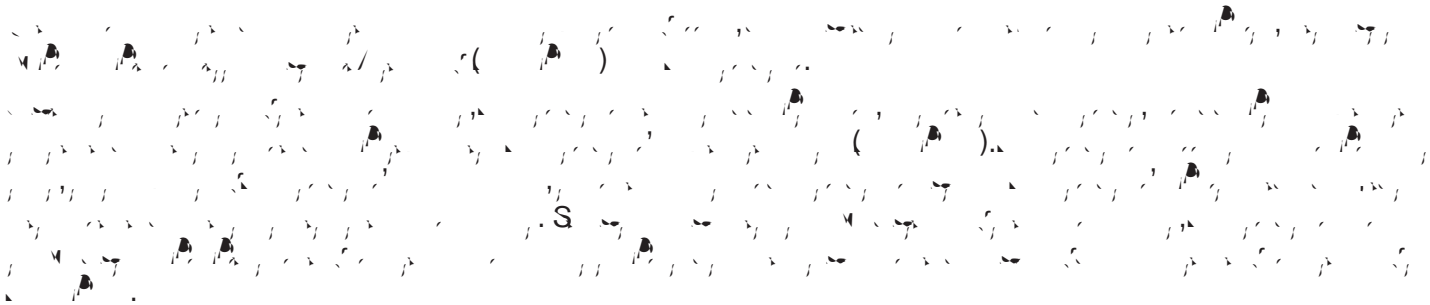
And

(Your Name Here)

Your address here _____
PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS VERY CLEARLY!

The Parties

Confidentiality, No Conflict of Interest, Proprietary Information Agreement



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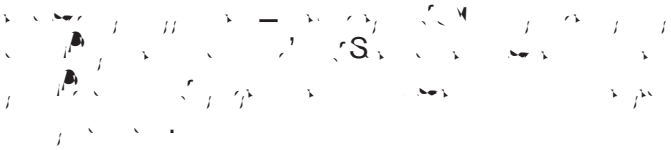

Karla C. Reyes