



FACT SHEET

Comparing the STARS and ARMS Acts with the DREAM Act

Congressman David Rivera has presented two pieces of legislation to help undocumented young people earn legal status in the United States; the Adjusted Residency for Military Service (ARMS) Act and the Studying Towards Adjusted Residency Status (STARS) Act.

There are important differences between the STARS and ARMS Acts and the most recent version of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act that was introduced in the 112th Congress.

ARMS Act	STARS Act	DREAM Act
<p>Requirements to receive a five year Conditional Non-Immigrant Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive in the U.S. before the age of 16. • Maximum age depends on branch, ranges from 27 (Air Force/Coast Guard) to 35 (Army). <p>Can apply for a five year extension of Conditional Non-Immigrant Status if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual serves at least two years active duty or four years reserve duty in the military and if discharged, receive an honorable discharge. <p>During the five year extension, the individual can then apply for permanent residency.</p> <p>**Individual must APPLY for all status extensions and permanent residency, not automatic**</p>	<p>Requirements to receive a five year Conditional Non-Immigrant Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive in the U.S. before the age of 16 • Be younger than 19 years old. If the individual is granted “voluntary departure” status before turning 19, they have until they are 21. • Must be accepted to a four year accredited institution of higher education. <p>Can apply for a five year extension of Conditional Non-Immigrant Status if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduated from an accredited four year institution of higher education. <p>Three years after receiving the five year extension, the individual can then apply for permanent residency.</p> <p>**Individual must APPLY for all status extensions and permanent residency, not automatic**</p>	<p>Requirements to apply for a six year Conditional Lawful Permanent Resident Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive in the U.S. before the age of 15. • Applies to those 32 years old of younger at the time of the Act’s enactment. <p>Automatically receive Lawful Permanent Residence status if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete two years of higher education (graduation not necessary). OR • Complete two years of military service, and if discharged, receive an honorable discharge. <p>Additional Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow states to offer in-state tuition, provides access to student loans, federal work study programs, services. • Limits individuals to sponsor family members for U.S. citizenship for at least 12 years.