About 350,000 undocumented undergraduates are enrolled in public and private colleges and universities across the United States. Unlike their peers with authorized immigration statuses, undocumented students reconfront limitations associated with their social location and liminal legality upon graduation. Dr. Salazar uncovers the challenges undocumented students encounter as they approach college graduation and their strategies to successfully transition out of higher education.

Dr. Cinthya Salazar (ella/she) is Assistant Professor, in Higher Education Administration, at Texas A&M University and a 2023 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Salazar's research focuses on the mechanisms used by undocumented students to access, persist, and succeed in higher education. She uses participatory action research, engaging undocumented students as co-researchers, to generate localized student success models to promote college retention. Her research and pedagogy are informed by experiences as a higher education administrator and student affairs educator working with minoritized students in college access and retention programs for over 8 years. She received the Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in 2019, the 2020 Bobby Wright Dissertation of the Year award, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), and the 2023 Early Career Scholar award, American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education. Her scholarship is published in venues such as in the Journal of Higher Education, the International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, the Journal of Qualitative Research, and the Journal of Diversity in Higher Education. Dr. Salazar co-chairs the ASHE Presidential Commission on Undocumented Immigrants and also serves as the Region III representative for NASPA's Undocumented Immigrants and Allies Knowledge Community. She received her Ph.D. in 2020 at the University of Maryland.

Where do I go from here? Examining the Transition of Undocumented Students Graduating from College

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