



Rescission of the DACA Program

On September 5, 2017, the Trump Administration announced it would phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program over the next six months. DACA allowed eligible individuals who entered the country as children to potentially avoid removal orders with good behavior and also apply for work permits in two-year spans. The Migration Policy Institute estimates this decision may affect up to 54,000 individuals here in Orange County.

Whether a student is a DACA recipient is irrelevant to their right to attend K-12 public schools and does not affect access to public education for children. Joint guidance on school enrollment procedures from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Justice recognizes that all children in the U.S. have a constitutional right of equal access to education, irrespective of their race, color, national origin, citizenship, immigration status, or the status of their parents/guardians. In California, all children between the ages of 6 and 18 must attend school under compulsory attendance laws.

The decision regarding DACA may not necessarily affect students in the Huntington Beach City School District but may affect their older siblings and/or parents. Counseling services are available at our schools through a referral and the following list of websites may be useful in learning more about the decision and to help connect individuals with resources:

American Immigration Council fact sheet on public education for immigrant students.
<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/plyler-v-doe-public-education-immigrant-students>

California Department of Education media guide section that includes information on immigration status of students. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lr/cl/cefistatus.asp>

California Department of Social Services list of organizations funded by CDSS to provide pro bono legal services. <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/Immigration-Services>

California Equity Leadership Alliance toolkit for undocumented students and their families.
<http://csba.org/GovernanceAndPolicyResources/ConditionsOfChildren/SpecificStudentPopulationEquity/ImmigrationStatus/UndocumentedStudentsToolkit.aspx>

Immigrant Legal Resource Center community advisory on what the decision means for DACA recipients, those with pending applications, those who need to renew DACA, and more.
<https://www.ilrc.org/advisory-daca>

Southern California Public Radio has created an FAQ that answers many questions regarding this change in enforcement. <https://www.scpr.org/news/2017/09/05/75333/faqs-what-to-expect-as-daca-is-phased-out>