

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) – The Facts

Q: What happened to DACA?

President Trump ended the Obama Executive Order providing deferred action to deport DACA recipients. DACA was not a law granting any legal protections to DACA recipients.

Q: What does the end of the DACA program mean?

1. No new DACA application filing as of September 5, 2017
2. Pending DACA applications filed before September 5, 2017 will be reviewed for possible approval on a case by case basis.
3. Current holders of DACA that have expiration dates between **September 5, 2017 – March 5, 2018 have until October 5, 2017** to file for renewal of DACA.
4. Pending DACA renewal applications filed before September 5, 2017 will be reviewed for possible approval on a case by case basis.
5. Current DACA status is active until date of expiration.
6. If DACA deadline date to wind down is hit on March 5, 2018 without any congressional replacement law, DACA recipients may be deported. However, DACA recipients are still low priority for deportation unless changes to qualification. Meaning, DACA recipient obtains significant criminal conviction, any three misdemeanor convictions, is considered a criminal alien or poses a threat to public safety.
7. No more advance approval paroles (consent to travel out of US) granted after September 5, 2017 (This applies to pending or new). **DACA recipients take the risk of not being able to return to the US when traveling outside of the US even if they've been granted an advance approval parole request.**

Q: What can public educational agencies do in the aftermath of DACA?

1. Update or adopt a DACA policy providing clear guidance on protection of DACA recipients and clearly communicate the policy to all;
2. Offer resources to DACA recipients – legal and mental services
3. Offer advice to DACA recipients that renewal filing deadline is October 5, 2017 and provide assistance with form filing.
4. Inform students and educators that study abroad or field trip opportunities outside of the US are not advised.
5. Advise DACA recipients to seek legal assistance in adjusting status to other eligible categories of immigration relief. EX: "U" visa holders – victims or witnesses of crimes; US citizen claims spouse.
6. Hold voluntary workshops on campus to offer resources.

Q: What laws are currently proposed before Congress to save the Dreamers?

1. Pass the 2017 Dream Act which provides a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients
2. Bridge Act – Provides a three year reprieve to DACA recipients until Congress can agree on passing more permanent legislation
3. 3. RAC Act provides all undocumented immigrants brought to US as children a pathway to citizenship.

Q: What can I do?

Lend your voice. Call or write your elected officials demanding that they support the protection of DACA recipients and passage of the 2017 DREAM Act.