Navigating DACA and Other Forms of Relief for Undocumented Students and Families

Webinar

Presented by: Julián Lazalde and Qoc’avib Revolorio
Who We Are

- Conduct analysis with a Latino perspective to inform, influence, and lead
- Our four issue areas:
  - Increasing access and improving quality in early childhood education
  - Affordable housing
  - Just immigration reform
  - Build community leadership
- Convene sectors of the community to engage in policy advocacy and training through our Acuerdo model
- Advancing Latinos advances a shared future
Guest Speaker

- Julian Lazalde
- Civic Engagement Manager
- Latino Policy Forum
- jlazalde@latinopolicyforum.org
Learning Objectives

By the end of this session you will learn the following:

- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
  - What is deferred action?
  - Eligibility and application process for DACA
  - Benefits of DACA
  - Resources – post secondary scholarships & accessing legal help
- The SCOTUS Decision
- Supporting Undocumented Students for school success
- Ask Questions!
What is Deferred Action?

- Prevents removal for a period of time
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) authorizes a non-US citizen to remain in the country temporarily while the deferred action is in effect
- Recipient may be eligible for a temporary work permit for the period she/he has deferred action
-Granted by DHS on a *case by case* basis
- Does not provide a pathway to legal permanent residency or citizenship status
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Eligibility For DACA

- You came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday
- You have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time
- You were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012
- You entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012
- You are currently in school, have graduated or obtained your certificate of completion from high school, have obtained your general educational development certification, or you are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States
- You have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat
- You were present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS

Source: www.uscis.gov/daca
Eligibility for DACA: A.G.A.P.E.

A - Arrival – Entered U.S. without inspection before or “lawful immigration status” expired by 6/15/12

G - Good legal standing – Felony or misdemeanor conviction(s)
   Get legal screening regardless!*

A - Age – Arrived in U.S. before age 16 & under age 31 as of 6/15/12

P - Presence – Continuously present in U.S. as of 6/15/07 & at time of submitting DACA petition

E - Education – Currently enrolled, graduated, equivalency, workforce program, or Armed Forces*
Eligibility: Immigration Cases

YES, you can apply for DACA even if you:

- Have previously been in deportation proceedings;
- Are currently in deportation proceedings;
- You have a final removal order; or
- You have signed a voluntary removal order.

¡Note! – While you are not currently detained in an immigration detention center
Eligibility for DACA: A.G.A.P.E.

Arrival – Entered U.S. without inspection before or “lawful immigration status” expired by 6/15/12

Good legal standing – Felony or misdemeanor conviction(s). Get legal screening regardless!*

Age – Arrived in U.S. before age 16 & under age 31 as of 6/15/12

Presence – Continuously present in U.S. as of 6/15/07 & at time of submitting DACA petition

Education – Currently enrolled, graduated, equivalency, workforce program, or Armed Forces*
Eligibility:
Education Requirements

If you meet ONE of the following, you may be eligible for DACA:

- Currently enrolled in school at the time of filing the application;
- Graduated from high school public or private;
- Currently enrolled in a GED, an equivalent program or have the certificate of completion of one or the other;
- Currently enrolled in English Second Language Classes (ESL) or workforce development or have certificate of completion of one or the other;
- Honorable discharged from the Coast Guard or the Armed Forces.
DACA Application Process

• School-issued academic transcripts
• Medical/immunization records
• Other school records, such as:
  • Proof of Enrollment
  • School Identification Card(s)
• Copy of high school diploma or GED certificate

**Optional to educators**
• Affidavits from teachers attesting to presence
DACA Application Process

Paying for DACA

- $465 – cost of application
- Paying for the application:
  - Personal/family savings
  - Fundraising (e.g.: gofundme.com)

Loans
(e.g.: www.self-helpfcu.org/personal/loans/immigration-loans)
Paying For DACA & Building Credit With Lending Circles

- Participants all make the same monthly payment
- MAF reports payments to the credit bureaus.
- The loan rotates each month to a different participant, until all have received the pot.

- zero-fee
- zero-interest
- credit building social loans
- Participants in C.A.S.L. lending circles experienced average credit score increase of 168 points in seven months.
- **Initial Screening**
  - Establish Action Plan w/ all financial options
  - Promissory note

- **Mandatory Financial Education Component**
  - Available in English & Spanish
  - In person & online

- **Consular IDs and ITINs Accepted**

- **Must Have Proof of Income**

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**Lending Circles**

Get a zero-interest social loan

Receive up to $2,500 and repay over time with **low monthly payments**

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**How do I get started?**

- Have a valid government issued ID, and Social Security Number or ITIN
- Go to LendingCircles.org and find a provider near you
- Complete the online application

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**Questions?**

312.217.5598
mrcruz@resurrectionproject.org
resurrectionproject.org

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The Resurrection Project • 1818 South Paulina Street • Chicago, Illinois 60608 • 312.217.5598
DACA Loan Lending Circles in Chicago

- **Chinese American Service League**
  - 2141 S. Tan Ct, Chicago, IL
  - Ben Lau, Financial Education Dept, (312) 791-0418
    - ben_lau@caslservice.org

- **Center for Changing Lives**
  - 1955 N. St Louis Ave #101, Chicago, IL
  - Natalie Zayas, Financial Coach, (773) 342-6210
    - natalie@cclconnect.org

- **The Resurrection Project**
  - 1818 S. Paulina St, Chicago, IL 60608
  - Madeline Cruz, Financial Coach, (312) 217-5598
    - mcruz@resurrectionproject.org
Scholarship Guides for Undocumented Students

- www.illinoisdreamfund.org
- www.isac.org
- www.scholarshipamerica.org

- www.e4fc.org
- www.icirr.org
- www.bit.ly/1qx2pDe


DREAMer's Roadmap

DREAMer's Roadmap is a mobile app designed to help DREAMer's - undocumented students- find and track scholarship opportunities available for them across the nation. The app will also work as a crowd sourcing platform where anyone can suggest a scholarship they know about that are not on our data base.
Legal Assessment

- www.adminrelief.org
- www.ilisready.org
- Avoid notary publics and “immigration consultants”:
  - National Immigrant Justice Center: https://www.immigrantjustice.org/how-avoid-immigration-fraud
- Ensure legal assessment provided by representatives certified by Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)
Benefits of DACA

- Financial well-being
  - Ability to transition into formal economy
  - Authorized to work with legal protections
  - Increased opportunities for advancement in existing jobs
- DACAmented individuals noted that access to state-issued IDs enabled them to attain better housing conditions
- Socioemotional effects of DACA (unquantifiable)
- DACA as a motivator for academic success

Source: UndocuScholars Project, Jan. 2015, *In the Shadows of the Ivory Tower*
Beneficiaries of DACA Experienced…

Based on a national online survey in 2013 with 2,684 young adults who received DACA.

Source: Gonzales, Roberto. “From Undocumented to DACAmented: Understanding Legal Status in a New Policy Context”. Harvard University Graduate School of Education. Slide 12, Powerpoint webinar lecture. June 2016. Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcQNcAcCpqA
U.S. Supreme Court Decision on DACA
How School Staff Can Support Undocumented Students

- Refer students to trusted online and/or local resources
- Only refer to BIA accredited reps & attorneys – other forms of relief may be possible
- Prepare and distribute educational materials for DACA applicants*
- Become familiar with process for requesting documentation in your school/district
- Identify point of contact
- Create safe space(s) for dialogue
American Federation Of Teachers Resource Guide

- Request booklets FOR FREE
- Help undocumented youth receive DACA
- Protect and prepare for an ICE raid.
How School Staff Can Support Undocumented Students

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Become familiar with process for requesting documentation in your school/district

Identify point of contact

Create safe space(s) for dialogue
MY NAME IS

I AM AN UNAFRAID ALLY!

WHO WORKS WITH AND SUPPORTS UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.
Contact

Julián Lazalde – Civic Engagement Manager
jlazalde@latinopolicyforum.org / (312) 376-1766 x231

Qoc’avib Revolorio – Immigration Education Associate
qrevolorio@latinopolicyforum.org / (312) 376-1766 x234

Martin Torres – Senior Policy Analyst
mtorres@latinopolicyforum.org / (312) 376-1766 x222

Latino Policy Forum
@latinopolicy
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