

DACA UPDATE

As of Jan 13, 2018

DACA Renewal
Applications
Accepted

On January 13, 2018, DHS announced that it would abide by a federal court decision issued on January 9, 2018 that ordered DHS to accept DACA renewal applications. The judge required DHS to maintain the DACA program as it was on September 5, 2017, the day the Trump administration announced the end of DACA. While only a clean Dream Act can provide 800,000 DREAMers with a permanent solution, the judge's order and the opportunity for DACA holders to apply for a 2-year renewal are major victories.

updated 1/14/18

DACA holders, their friends, families and communities should keep the following things in mind to protect their rights:

1) DACA renewals and first-time filing

You can **renew** your DACA status for 2 years if you were previously granted DACA but it expired on or after September 5, 2016. You can also file for a 2-year renewal if your DACA status will expire in 150 days. However, if you have never applied for DACA before, you will **not** be able to apply for the first time now.

2) Forms and cost of renewal application

You must file forms I-821 D, I-765, and the I-765 worksheet along with the \$495 filing fee or fee exemption request. Download these forms at <https://www.uscis.gov/forms>.

3) Help with the DACA filing fee

If you need help with the \$495 DACA filing fee, check with Mission Asset Fund. Visit: <https://missionassetfund.org/lending-circles-for-dreamers/>

4) Advance parole

The judge's decision does not require DHS to allow advance parole requests.

5) DACA expiration before September 5, 2016

If you had DACA status but it **expired before September 5, 2016** it's possible to file a new initial DACA request. You must list the date your prior DACA expired or was terminated on the form I-821.

6) DACA status is current until the expiration date and can be renewed

If your DACA status has not yet expired, it is still valid and can continued to be renewed under the January 13, 2018 DHS announcement. Renewal applications are accepted 150 days before the DACA expiration date.

7) Talk to your union rep if you have one

If you belong to a union, talk to your union rep if your employer gives you any problems about DACA or for general questions.

8) Proof of DACA status

It's important to keep proof that you have been granted DACA with you. A copy of your employment authorization card, or a notice of approval will prove that you have been granted DACA.

9) Rights under the U.S. Constitution

All people in the U.S. have certain rights under the U.S. Constitution. For Know Your Rights information go to iAmerica.org/know-your-rights

10) Reputable legal help -- not *notarios*

To find reputable immigration attorneys and legal services organizations, go to iAmerica.org/legalhelp. Avoid scammers and *notarios* who claim to be able to help you.

We don't know how long it will take for DHS to process DACA renewals. We also don't know if the judge's decision eventually will be blocked. If you are unsure whether you want to apply for a renewal of your DACA status, it's important to consult with a reputable immigration attorney. Decide quickly whether you want to apply -- don't wait.

The fight for a clean Dream Act is more important now than ever!

Visit iAmerica.org/DACA for links to the USCIS announcement, forms, legal services lookup and other important information.