

New Immigration Relief Programs: What you need to know!

A Presentation of the San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium
www.immigrantsandiego.org

What did the President announce?

- On November 20, 2014, President Obama announced:
 1. **EXPANSION** of the “DACA” (Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals) program, first announced in June 2012.
 2. **NEW** program called “DAPA” (Deferred Action for Parental Accountability) for the parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.

Warning: Avoid Fraud and Scams

- ❖ No one can apply for the expanded DACA or DAPA NOW. Beware of anyone who tells you otherwise.
- ❖ Be cautious of the neighborhood immigration “expert” who may want to help, but is not qualified and may make mistakes that may put you at risk.
- ❖ Beware of immigration “consultants,” “notarios,” “visa fixers,” “asesores de inmigración” and people who also do taxes, travel services, etc. These people are not attorneys and cannot legally or ethically offer you advice about immigration law.
- ❖ Seek assistance from a reputable attorney, charitable legal service provider, or at our free workshops in 2015.

Eligibility for EXPANDED DACA

- Starting Spring 2015, you may request the expanded DACA if you:
 - Entered the U.S. prior to turning 16 years-old;
 - Have lived continuously in the U.S. since January 1, 2010, up to the present time;
 - Were physically present in the U.S. on November 20, 2014;
 - Had no lawful status on November 20, 2014;
 - Have graduated high school or are currently enrolled in an education program
 - Have not been convicted of:
 - A felony
 - Significant misdemeanor
 - Three or more other misdemeanors

Eligibility for NEW DAPA

- Starting Spring 2015, you may request the NEW DAPA if you:
 - Are the parent of a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident son or daughter (OF ANY AGE) born on or before November 20, 2014
 - Have continuous residence in the United States since January 1, 2010
 - Were physically present in the United States on November 20, 2014
 - Are not an “enforcement priority” for removal from the United States

Who are “Enforcement Priorities”?

- Gang members, terrorists, and felons
- Person apprehended at the Port of Entry, trying to unlawfully enter U.S.
- Person convicted of three or more misdemeanors (not including traffic violations or immigration violations)
- Person convicted of ONE “significant misdemeanor,” including domestic violence, sexual abuse, drug trafficking or possession for sale, burglary, firearm offense, or DUI

Benefits of Deferred Action (DACA & DAPA)

- Prevents deportation
- Work authorization
- May apply for a driver's license once your work permit arrives
- May apply for travel permit

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Prepare to apply

- Save money (\$465 for the application fee).
- Locate your birth certificate and get it translated.
- Organize your proof of physical presence in the United States by year.
School records, pay stubs, bills, medical records, and other documents.
- Get an updated passport or government issued ID from your consulate.
- Consult with an attorney about your criminal record before applying.

Frequently asked questions

- If my child was born after November 20, 2014, can I apply for DAPA? **NO**
- If someone is outside of the U.S now, can they apply? **NO**
- Is deferred action a pathway to citizenship? **NO**
- If I am arrested by police, what should I do? **See an attorney**
- If I was not present in the U.S. on November 20, can I apply? **NO**
- If I have an immigration record, can I apply? **See an attorney**

How to get help

- SDIRC and our community partners will be hosting **FREE ASSISTANCE EVENTS** in 2015 for low-income applicants. Visit WWW.IMMIGRANTSANDIEGO.ORG for event information.
- Ask for a referral to a private attorney or legal service provider by contacting:
 - San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium– www.immigrantsandiego.org
 - American Immigration Lawyers Association– www.ailalawyer.com
 - San Diego County Bar Referral Service– www.sdcba.org

Important Contact Info

For more information about DACA and DAPA, the San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium, and our events, visit www.immigrantsandiego.org

To report fraud or request a referral to a qualified immigration attorney, call [619-800-1397](tel:619-800-1397) and leave a detailed message

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD