



THE RESCISSION OF DACA AND WHAT IT MEANS

September 6, 2017

Catholic Migration Services is deeply troubled and saddened by the Trump administration's lack of commitment to immigrant youth. On September 5th 2017, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Trump administration was rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA). DACA was a program put in place by President Obama to protect young people from deportation if they had been brought to the U.S. as children, and to enable them to lawfully work. An estimated 800,000 children and young adults across the country applied for, and were granted DACA status. These DACA recipients have been able to finish school and obtain jobs, contribute to our economy and communities, and live without the constant fear of deportation.

What the announcement of September 5th means:

As of September 5th, 2017, the government will no longer accept any initial DACA applications. Any initial DACA application that was submitted on or before September 5th will be reviewed and adjudicated on a case-by-case basis.

If you currently have DACA and your status is set to expire before March 5, 2018, you can file a renewal application, but it must be submitted by **October 5th, 2017**. All renewal applications submitted after October 5th will be rejected by USCIS.

If your application is granted, you will receive a work permit, which will be valid for use until the expiration date listed on the card, unless terminated or revoked. DACA benefits are generally valid for two years from the date of issuance.

Travel with DACA:

No new application for Advance Parole (permission to re-enter the United States granted in advance of travel abroad) will be adjudicated. If you have an application for Advance Parole currently pending, your money will be refunded and your application will be closed.

If you are currently traveling out of the country on Advance Parole, you are encouraged to return as soon as possible. If you have an approved application for Advance Parole but have not yet left the United States you should speak to an attorney before traveling.

Expiration of DACA and Enforcement:

According to DHS, as of now, "information provided in DACA requests will not be proactively provided to other law enforcement entities (including ICE and CBP) for the purpose of immigration enforcement proceedings unless the requestor poses a risk to national security or public safety, or meets the criteria for the issuance of a Notice To Appear or a referral to ICE under the criteria." However, this policy may change at a later time.

CMS urges anyone who currently receives DACA to call our office and schedule an appointment.

Catholic Migration Services is a non-profit organization that offers free immigration, employment, and housing legal services to Brooklyn and Queens residents. Please visit our website at www.catholicmigration.org for further updates and important information about the government's immigration policies.