

## DACA FAQs: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Effective September 5, 2017, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) no longer accepts **NEW** applications for Deferred Action for Childhood arrivals (DACA). This means that DACA, an Obama administration program granting legal protection and work authorization for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. before age 16, will terminate by **March 5, 2018**.

### What is going to happen to current DACA holders?

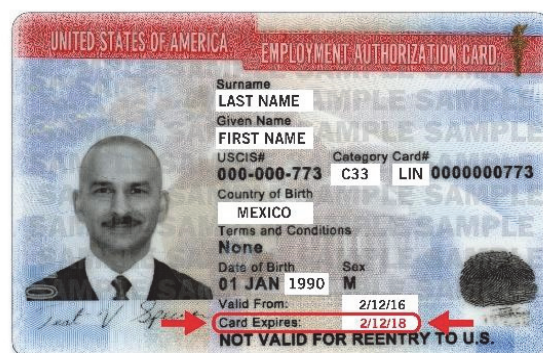
Current DACA holders will maintain deferred action status and their employment authorization documents (EADs) until they expire, unless terminated or revoked. DACA benefits are generally valid for two years from the date of issuance.

### Can I renew my DACA work authorization?

- For individuals with **either initial or renewal applications pending as of September 5, 2017**, USCIS will continue to process those applications on a case-by-case basis.
- DACA recipients with work authorization that will **expire between now and March 5, 2018**, will have until **October 5, 2017** to apply for a two-year renewal.
- DACA recipients whose work authorization **expires on or after March 6, 2018** cannot get an extension, but will keep their benefit until their card expires.
- DACA recipients whose work authorization **expired before September 5, 2017 and who did not apply to renew on or before September 5, 2017**, cannot renew their DACA.

### How do I know if I am eligible to renew my status?

You should immediately check the date your DACA will expire. You can find the expiration date (*See image below*) on your employment authorization card. **If it expires between now and March 5, 2018, you can apply for a two-year extension. YOU MUST APPLY TO RENEW BY OCTOBER 5, 2017.** We strongly encourage you to apply as soon as possible and not wait until right before the deadline.



## What happens to my Social Security Number, Driver's License and State Identification card?

A **Social Security number** is unique to each individual and valid for life. For employment purposes, the social security number must be accompanied by a work authorization. For other purposes like banking, housing, and filing taxes, you should continue to use your social security number. If you have not obtained a social security number, you should do so immediately.

**Driver's licenses** or state identification cards issued with your DACA work authorization will remain valid until your work authorization expires.

## Can I still apply for advance parole and travel?

USCIS will no longer grant DACA recipients permission to travel abroad through Advance Parole. All pending advance parole applications will be closed and all fees will be refunded.

**WARNING:** For DACA recipients who have already been granted advance parole, but have not traveled, please speak to an immigration attorney about potential risks.

## Am I at risk when my DACA expires?

To date, the Department of Homeland Security's position is that it will not proactively use information provided by DACA applicants for enforcement unless an individual presents certain security risks. If you have ever been arrested or detained, please consult an immigration attorney about your individual risk.

## Can I still work?

You have the right to work legally until your work permit expires. You have no obligation to inform your employer that DACA has ended. Your employer does not have the right to ask you whether you are a DACA recipient or how you got your work permit.

Your employer does not have the right to fire you, put you on leave, or change your work status until **after** your work permit has expired. If your expiration date is nearing, your employer may ask you for an updated work permit but cannot take any action against you until after it is expired.

You may also work as a consultant, or you can start your own business, but you cannot be an "employee" as defined by the US tax laws, which means having salaried employment under supervision.

## Where can I get legal immigration help?

Many DACA recipients may be eligible for another immigration option, to get a work permit or even a green card. Talk to an authorized immigration services provider to understand your legal options.

- For **CUNY Students, Faculty and Staff** please contact CUNY Citizenship Now! at 212-652-2055 or email us your questions at [citizenshipnowinfo@cuny.edu](mailto:citizenshipnowinfo@cuny.edu)
- For non-CUNY students find the nearest low cost immigration legal services provider at [www.immigrationlawhelp.org](http://www.immigrationlawhelp.org) or call 311 and say "DACA"

- For New York State residents resources are available by calling the Office for New Americans Hotline at (800) 566-7636 or visit <https://www.newamericans.ny.gov/>

## Is there any financial support or counseling available for students if they lose DACA status?

- CUNY students should go to the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs at their campus for assistance. That office will have a list of resources available to DACA and undocumented students.
- Mental Health & Wellness Services @ CUNY: <http://www2.cuny.edu/current-students/student-affairs/student-services/counseling/>
- **United We Dream** has an extensive list of mental health resources on their website: <http://weareheretostay.org/resources/mental-health-resources>
- **ThriveNYC** will give you access to mental health supports in your language. Call 1-888-NYC-WELL, text "WELL" to 65173, or go online to <https://thrivenyc.cityofnewyork.us/>

## Additional Resources

**US Citizenship & Immigration Services:** [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). This is the official website for the agency that processes DACA applications. The office has issued a number of FAQs to assist DACA holders.

**Department of Homeland Security FAQs:** <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/frequently-asked-questions-rescission-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

**NYC Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs**, offers an array of service to regardless of immigration status: <http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/immigrants/downloads/pdf/newsroom/11-17-2016-english.pdf>

<http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/immigrants/downloads/pdf/actionhealthnyc/MOIA-DACA-fact-sheet-English.pdf>

ActionNYC provides free, confidential immigrant legal services. Call 311 and say "ActionNYC," to be connected to a provider or to find a clinic in your neighborhood. <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/actionnyc/index.page>

IDNYC is a free, official government-issued identification card recognized in City buildings, public schools and by the NYPD. Call 311 and say "IDNYC" or visit <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/index.page>

**Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF):** <http://www.maldef.org/>

**TheDream.US** currently provides scholarships for DACA recipients along with legal and education resources: <http://www.thedream.us/resources/>

TheDream.US @ CUNY: <http://www2.cuny.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/the-dream-us/>

**Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)** offers great advice on what you can do now and how to protect yourself: [https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/community\\_advisory\\_-\\_end\\_of\\_dacav2.pdf](https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/community_advisory_-_end_of_dacav2.pdf)

**Anti-Violence Project** has a bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline for counseling: 212-714-1141

**New Economy Project** has a DREAMer loan fund project that can consult and assist you with financial needs: 212-680-5100

**CUNY DREAMers Hub:** <http://www2.cuny.edu/current-students/student-affairs/special-programs/dreamers-hub/>