5 Things Colleges and Universities can do in the Wake of the Latest DACA Decision

1. Share information with DACA recipients about how to renew their DACA
   • Although Judge Hanen affirmed his prior ruling that DACA is not legal, the stay that allows DACA recipients to continue to renew their status remains in place. Only the Fifth Circuit Court has the power to lift the stay.
   • DACA remains under threat in the courts, so it’s critical that all eligible DACA recipients submit their renewals to retain their protections. Get more information about renewing DACA and frequently asked questions from Informed Immigrant.
   • Host information sessions on the current state of DACA.

2. Support the use of advance parole for DACA recipients in your community
   • DACA recipients can utilize advance parole to travel abroad for educational, employment, or humanitarian purposes.
   • Traveling abroad with advance parole has the potential to remove barriers that prevent certain DACA recipients from being able to adjust their status if they have a potential immigration pathway.

3. Audit and update internal and institutional policies
   • Expand eligibility for admissions and financial aid to undocumented students of all races, backgrounds, and countries of origin recognizing that the majority of this year’s and future high school graduates are not eligible for DACA.
   • Decouple eligibility for admissions, reduced tuition, and aid from DACA status (if an existing requirement). Make sure access to other institutional resources is decoupled from DACA status as well, including fellowships and scholarships.
   • Provide mental health support for directly impacted community members on campus.

4. Protect DACA recipients, Dreamers, and their personal information
   • Utilize Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) privacy protections to protect immigrant student information.
   • Train students, faculty, and staff on their rights and how to respond in the event of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or other immigration law enforcement on campus.

5. Continue and expand legal screenings and representation
   • Partner with legal clinics, nonprofits, and/or private attorneys to conduct legal screenings that can identify existing and emerging opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to adjust their status and potentially seek U.S. citizenship.
   • Establish a relationship with your Member of Congress’s constituent services staffer to further support the campus’ undocumented community. Make sure your representative and/or senators are friendly to undocumented communities before reaching out.

For more information about supporting undocumented students and community members on campus see the Presidents’ Alliance’s Beyond DACA: An Updated Checklist for Campuses to Support Undocumented Campus Members and FWD.us’s How can your college or university protect & support undocumented students?

Looking for more immigration resources? Check out Informed Immigrant in English and in Spanish.