EXECUTIVE ACTION AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

Only Congress can pass laws – Congress has not passed an immigration bill.

On November 20, 2014, President Obama announced executive action on immigration.

The President is directing federal immigration agencies to prioritize use of resources and:

- Defer deportation and permit noncitizens to remain in U.S. for period of time
- Authorize work permits
- Allow travel
KEY PARTS OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT

- Expand Deferred Action to include parents of U.S. citizens and green card holders
- Expand DACA to eliminate age cap, change date-of-entry, and extend EAD period to 3 years
- End Secure Communities
NUMBERS OF PEOPLE PROTECTED

4.4 million parents of U.S. citizens and LPRs

290,000 more people eligible for DACA
# Benefits & Limitations of DAPA & DACA

## Benefits
- Protection from deportation for 3 year period
- Work authorization
- Social security number
- Driver’s license in some states
- May request permission to travel abroad

## Limitations
- Not a green card or visa
- Not a path to citizenship
- Discretionary case-by-case decision based on DHS enforcement priorities
DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTS OF US CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS (DAPA)

Parent of a U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder), as of November 20, 2014;

Continuously resided in the U.S. since January 1, 2010;

Physically present in the U.S. on November 20, 2014 and at the time of request;

No lawful status as of November 20, 2014
WHAT IF YOU HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD OR RECENT REMOVAL ORDER?

Certain criminal offenses; terrorist or gang activity; and/or recent deportation orders may disqualify you and/or expose you to removal proceedings.

Get legal counseling to find out if your criminal or immigration record affects your eligibility.
EXPANDED DACA

What does the President’s announcement mean for DACA?

No age cap.

- The President removed the DACA guideline about being born on or after June 16, 1981. This means you cannot be too old to qualify for DACA as long as you meet the other guidelines.

How long you must have lived in the U.S. to qualify has changed.

- Now people who have lived here since January 1, 2010 and meet the other guidelines will qualify for DACA.
EXPANDED DACA

What does the President’s announcement mean for DACA?

Three-year DACA grants

- Starting November 24, 2014, new first-time and renewal applicants will receive deferred action and work permits for 3 years instead of 2.

Criminal, national security, and public safety bars

- If you have ever been arrested or convicted of an offense or are not sure about your juvenile or criminal history, get your criminal records and consult a legal service provider.
EXPANDED DACA

I have DACA now, what does this mean for me?

- Your DACA grant period and work permit is still valid for two years.
- The government is exploring ways to extend two-year renewal work permits to the new three year period.
- Stay tuned.

My renewal application is pending, what does this mean for me?

- You should receive a three year work permit.
WHAT IF I DON’T QUALIFY FOR EITHER DEFERRED ACTION?

The government does not have resources to deport all undocumented people.

Deportation priorities have changed to focus on:

• certain criminal offenders;
• those who threaten national security; and
• recent immigration violators.

Information about these categories will continue to develop.
### WHEN CAN I APPLY?

The application process is NOT open yet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parents of U.S. citizens and green cardholder</th>
<th>Expanded DACA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Application process to open within 180 days (by May 2015)</td>
<td>• Application process to open within 90 days (by February 2015)</td>
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BEWARE OF FRAUD!

There is no way to apply yet!

Don’t believe anyone who says they can sign you up for a program now.

Information will continue to develop. Consult trusted resources to learn more.
WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete application form (not yet available)
- $465 fee (no waivers; very limited fee exemptions)
- Supporting evidence
- Fingerprinting and background check
WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE?

1. Save money for filing fees (at least $465)
2. Gather evidence to show you qualify
3. Gather any criminal records that you have
4. Consult with a licensed immigration lawyer or a BIA accredited representative
GATHERING EVIDENCE

Proof of identity

- Passport from home country
- ID card from home country
- Birth certificate from home country and photo ID
- School or military ID with photo
- U.S. immigration document with photo and name
GATHERING EVIDENCE

Documents showing relationship with U.S. citizen or LPR child

- Birth certificate of child
- Copy of green card of child
- Naturalization certificate of child
- Adoption decree of child, if adopted child
- Marriage certificate, if stepchild
GATHERING EVIDENCE

Proof of continuous residence in U.S. for past 5 years and on November 20, 2014

- Rent receipts, rental agreements, or utility bills
- School records (letters, report cards, etc.)
- Military records
- Records from a religious organization confirming participation in a religious ceremony
- Money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country
MORE PROOF FOR PRESENCE IN U.S.

Presence for past 5 years

• Passport entries
• Birth certificates of children born in the U.S.
• Dated bank activity
• Car license, registration, insurance, DMV records
• Rental agreement, contracts, receipts, mortgage
• Tax receipts
• Medical records and insurance
CRIMINAL HISTORY

Get documents related to any contact with police or law enforcement

- State criminal records
- FBI report
- Court records
RESOURCES

• For more information from the government go to www.uscis.gov
  • To receive updates from USCIS, subscribe here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCIS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDHSCIS_74
  • Register with United We Dream at www.unitedwedream.org/executiveaction/
RESOURCES

Find Legal Help and Resources on How to Prepare to Apply

• How to Get Your Criminal Records
• How to Get a Copy of Your Immigration File
• How to Get a Passport or Identity Document for Mexican Nationals

http://www.adminrelief.org/legalhelp/
CONTACT INFO & HOW TO GET INVOLVED

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[WAYS TO GET INVOLVED]