



2017 CASFAA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President

Daniel Reed
San Diego Christian College
200 Riverview Parkway
Santee, CA 92071

President-Elect

Anita Kermes
CSU Sacramento
6000 J St
Sacramento, CA 95819

Past-President

Scott Cline
California College of the Arts
1111 8th Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

Vice-President – Federal Issues

Lissa Wayne
NYFA
3300 West Riverside Drive
Burbank, CA 91505

Vice-President – State Issues

Daniel Roddick
University of California Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Treasurer

Sunshine Garcia
CSU Channel Islands
One University Drive
Camarillo, CA 93012

Secretary

Dustin Smith-Salinas
Mills College
5000 MacArthur Blvd
Oakland, CA 94613

**Member-at-Large
Access & Diversity**

Yuliana Martinez
Antelope Valley College
3041 West Ave K
Lancaster, CA 93536

**Member-at-Large
Graduate and Professional**

Barbara Bickett
Devry University
6600 Dumbarton Cr.
Fremont, CA 94555

UC Representative

Audren Morris-Sandoval
UCLA
405 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90095

CSU Representative

Saul Ramirez
Cal Poly Pomona
3801 W. Temple ave
Pomona, CA 91768

Community College Representative

Luanne Canestro
San Mateo County CC District
4200 Farm Hill Blvd
Red Wood City, CA 94061

Independent Representative

Mary Booker
University of San Francisco
2130 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

Proprietary Representative

Tom Le
NYFA
3300 West Riverside Drive
Burbank, CA 91505

September 8, 2017

Dear CASFAA community,

The California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) disagrees with the recent decision by President Trump's administration to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The program has been a beacon of hope and unprecedented educational opportunities for hundreds of thousands of young immigrants, most of whom have never known another country other than the United States. Their potential for positive, dedicated service to their adopted country is severely jeopardized by the decision to strip away benefits enacted by this widely accepted and popular program.

California leads the nation in DACA-eligible residents with 539,000 potential beneficiaries and, with the support of CASFAA, has consistently led the fight for improving the lives of young immigrants through access to higher education opportunities. Part of CASFAA's mission is to advocate, on behalf of the financial aid profession, for student educational access and choice. Our professional organization consists of members who directly serve millions of students. In that context we add our voice alongside many organizations, in urgently requesting Congress to immediately provide comprehensive immigration reform that protects DACA recipients without further disruption to their educational pursuits and employment status.

At this time it is very important to remind our students that financial aid opportunities will remain in place despite the changes to the federal DACA program. At the forefront is the California Dream Act which is unrelated to DACA and provides state financial aid resources for Dreamers to attend a college, university or career college of their choice. Attached is an information sheet with important points to share with students on the impact of DACA changes and the continuance of the CA Dream Act financial aid program regardless of DACA.

CASFAA will continue to support our mission by assisting California Dreamers, and all students, in their pursuit of higher education during this time of doubt and uncertainty.

Thank you,
2016-2017 CASFAA Executive Committee

CASFAA Guide to Recent Changes to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) Program

On Sept 5th 2017 Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced changes to the DACA program. CASFAA has provided an outline of these changes and how they may affect DACA students at your institution.

1. New Applications for DACA work permits will not be accepted on or after 09/05/2017.
2. DACA recipients with a permit set to expire before March 5, 2018, will have the opportunity to apply for a two-year renewal if they apply by October 5.
3. There are approximately 154,000 individuals with DACA expiration dates between now and March 5, 2018.
4. Applications already in the pipeline will be processed as will renewal applications for those facing near-term expiration.
5. All existing work permits will be honored until their date of expiration of up to two full years from today's date.

Please advise any DACA student with a permit set to expire before March 5th 2018 to apply for an extension before October 5th 2017.

Status of the California Dream Act for Eligible Recipients

1. The California Dream Act remains in effect for all eligible recipients and is not affected by the recent changes to DACA.
2. The California Student Aid Commission would like to note that DACA status is unrelated to college admission or financial aid in California.
3. California law provides state financial aid resources for Dreamers to attend college and earn a degree – an education enhances the value these students will be able return to their communities.
4. The California Dream Act allows students to apply for state financial aid to attend eligible California colleges, universities and career education programs.
5. The California Dream Act Application (CADAA) is unrelated to the federal DACA program, ***and we cannot emphasize enough that DACA status is not required to be eligible for financial aid or admission to college in California.***

Resources

[USCIS DACA Renewal Application Page](#)

[USCIS Contact Page](#)

[Renewal Form I-821D](#)

[Renewal Form I-765](#)

[Renewal Form I-765W](#)

[California Dream Act Resource Page](#)