

Dr. Jose Fierro
President's Message
August 31, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

September 5 will be a pivotal time for the President of the United States to take action on the program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). The President's decision will impact many undocumented students across America, including here on campus. I want to reaffirm that our campus is committed to ensuring a safe and productive learning environment for all students, in support of our [Board Policy on Nondiscrimination](#). We are dedicated to our shared values of diversity, inclusion, and zero-tolerance for discrimination.

Many of you may remember the Board of Trustees took action on December 7, 2016, adopting two resolutions, one in support of our students ([Resolution No. #16-1207D](#) – page 41) and one declaring Cerritos College a Safe Campus ([Resolution No. #16-1207E](#) – page 42). We want our students to thrive, learn and be productive members of society, and we will provide as many resources as we can. Each person's situation is unique and we want to do everything in our power to support our students.

There are a few key points I want to clarify and share with you that I believe will help our students in this critical moment:

1. [The Chancellor's Office has developed a helpful website related to DACA/undocumented students](#)
2. DACA does not impact the status of students who receive financial aid.
 - a. Recipients of the California Dream Act and/or AB 540 are recipients of state funding.
 - b. DACA provides individuals with a temporary legal status for gainful employment without fear of deportation. If you or students have questions related to AB 540, please visit our webpage: www.cerritos.edu/AB540.
3. The campus community is here to help our students, including the many AB 540 Taskforce members who continue to facilitate our safe learning environment. If you need assistance, please contact Counseling faculty members Lynn Wang (lwang@cerritos.edu) or Rosa Carillo (rcarillo@cerritos.edu).

Lastly, student consent laws prohibit the release of records unless authorized by a student or required by a judicial warrant. The College will continue to monitor the situation regarding DACA and will update the campus community.

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650

**CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO 16-1207D
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
IN SUPPORT OF UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS**

WHEREAS Cerritos College is an institution that supports all students who want to excel in their educational goals;

WHEREAS the students of Cerritos College with the approval of the Board of Trustees have established the Associated Student Body known as Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC);

WHEREAS ASCC recognizes Dreamers Reaching Empowerment through an Academic Movement (D.R.E.A.M) club within the Inter-club Council;

WHEREAS Dreamers are described as students who are undocumented and students who are non-residents that qualify under the California Dream Act;

WHEREAS there are also undocumented students who do not qualify as Dreamers;

WHEREAS that Dreamers and undocumented students are at a disadvantage when it comes to opportunities/resources available to students who are documented/citizens;

WHEREAS many Cerritos College students are not aware of the struggles Dreamers and undocumented students experience;

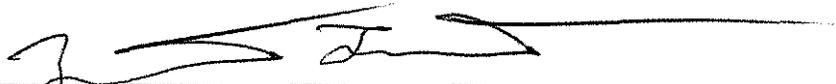
WHEREAS Cerritos College does not discriminate on the basis of immigration status;

WHEREAS there have been Dreamers and undocumented students who have been elected into student leader positions and have been involved in the community of Cerritos College;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cerritos College Board of Trustees Senate takes a stance of support for Dreamers and undocumented students.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Cerritos Community College District on this 7th day of December, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0



President of the Board of Trustees of the Cerritos
Community College District

Attested to:



Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the
Cerritos Community College District

**CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO 16-1207E
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
TO DECLARE CERRITOS COLLEGE A SAFE CAMPUS FOR ALL STUDENTS**

WHEREAS, Cerritos College has an obligation to serve all of its residents equally, without regard to immigration status, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race or ethnicity, color, medical condition, genetic information, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, or military and veteran status; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College, in accordance with its mission statement: values its diverse student population and is committed to providing these students with high quality, comprehensive instructional programs and support services that improve student success and offer clear pathways to achieve personal, educational, and career goals; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College is committed to providing a safe, secure, and supportive environment for all students, faculty, and staff by enforcing all federal, state, and local laws designed to eliminate illegal discrimination and harassment; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College supports and promotes programs, initiatives, and policies designed to instill values associated with community and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College supports strong, student-focused policies developed to create pathways for students to obtain critical resources to complete their educational goals in a diverse and respectful learning environment such as Assembly Bill (AB) 540, signed into law on October 12, 2001, by Governor Gray Davis, recognizing the rights of certain non-resident students to be exempted from the payment of non-resident tuition; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College does not support any political platform calling for the displacement of families or communities by mass deportation; requiring religious and/or ethnic communities in the United States to register with the government; patrolling neighborhoods in the United States based on religious or political affiliation; illegal, racially motivated stop and frisk policies; the elimination of laws protecting the rights of members of the LGBTQ community; and any political platform that is rooted in destructive policies that isolate communities or deny basic human rights and services, and diminish respect and decency toward all people; and

WHEREAS, Cerritos College, being committed to the celebration of diversity and inclusion that are integrated in California Statutes, rejects the development and implementation of all policies and programs that undermine and threaten the ability of any member of its community to pursue their educational and professional goals;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT CERRITOS COLLEGE DECLARES ITSELF A SAFE CAMPUS, AND

unless required by law or California Education Code, Cerritos College will of its own accord:

- not enter into agreements with law enforcement agencies or federal departments for the enforcement of federal immigration law;
- not honor immigration hold requests; and

- not contact, detain, question or arrest individuals solely on the basis of declared or suspected immigration status.

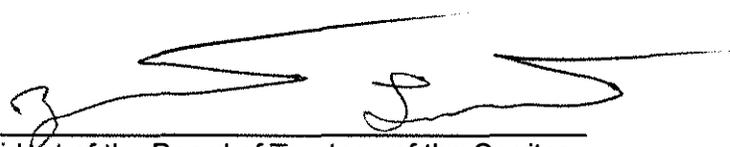
Cerritos College will continue to respect and support the California Trust Act, which does not allow minor infractions to trigger deportations. The Cerritos College Board of Trustees will continue to work at all levels of government to advocate for the rights of our diverse student population to obtain a quality education.

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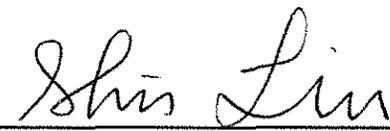
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ABSTENTIONS: 0



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