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Statement on Biden Administration's executive action to support Dreamers and family unity

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 20, 2024

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NORWALK, Calif. – June 20, 2024 – On June 18, President Biden announced that individuals, including DACA recipients and other Dreamers who have earned a degree at an accredited U.S. institution of higher education and received an offer of employment from a U.S. employer in a field related to their degree, will be able to obtain work visas more quickly. The Biden Administration also announced that the Department of Homeland Security will take action to ensure that U.S. citizens with noncitizen spouses and children can keep their families together by helping certain noncitizen spouses and children apply for lawful permanent residence – a status that they are already eligible for – without leaving the country.

Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Jose Fierro and the Board of Trustees issued the following statement:

"These executive actions mark a significant step forward for our DACA students. Making the visa process easier for U.S. college graduates will enable many of our college-educated Dreamers to utilize their skills and talents to find employment in this country. It will also empower them to contribute to filling critical workforce needs. Our students can pursue more ambitious goals by reinforcing the importance of their dreams and hard work and providing them with tangible opportunities to thrive. Keeping families united will provide stability and peace of mind to thousands of individuals who have built their lives in the U.S. Protecting the status of DACA students and families paves the way for a more resilient community and a stronger economy. Cerritos College supports these actions and remains committed to advocating for policies that empower our students and their families. Together, we can build a brighter, more inclusive future for everyone."

About Cerritos College: Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college's district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs, and South Gate. Cerritos College offers nearly 300 degree and certificate programs in nine divisions. Annually, more than 5,000 students successfully complete their course of studies. Enrollment currently averages 21,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at <http://www.cerritos.edu/>.

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