

DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)

FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 2017

What is the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program?

DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, is a federal immigration program begun in 2012 that helps undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as young people. DACA provides eligible undocumented immigrants with temporary protection from deportation and access to work authorization.

DACA recipients, or “Dreamers,” can work lawfully, receive a Social Security card, and connect to other important benefits and services, including Medicaid in New York State, which can help them provide for themselves and their families.

President Trump announced that the DACA program is ending. What does that mean?

As of September 5, 2017, the federal government will stop accepting new DACA applications.

New DACA applications that were accepted as of September 5, 2017 will be adjudicated. People whose DACA will expire before or on March 5, 2018 can receive a two-year renewal if their renewal application is accepted by the federal government by October 5, 2017. No renewals will be granted for DACA recipients whose DACA status expires on or after March 6, 2018.

All current DACA statuses will remain valid until the date of their expiration. Additionally, the federal government will not approve any new Advance Parole documents for DACA recipients as of September 5, 2017.

I have DACA and a work permit. Is my employment authorization card still valid?

Your employment authorization card is valid until expiration, unless it is terminated or revoked individually.

I have DACA. Will the federal government now use my information to deport me?

The federal government has confirmed that information provided in DACA requests will not be proactively provided to immigration enforcement agencies. However, as before, information may be shared with immigration enforcement agencies in cases that involve public safety threats, criminal activity, or fraud.



Mayor's Office
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I'm a DACA recipient. What happens to my NYS driver's license? Can I receive an identification document if I lose my DACA status?

NYS driver's licenses and identity documents remain valid until the document's expiration date (not the "Temporary Visitor" expiration date). However, under New York state law and regulations, you cannot renew your driver's license or other DMV identity document if you no longer have valid "Temporary Visitor" status (such as DACA, Temporary Protected Status, and other immigration statuses) at the time you apply for renewal.

New York City residents who need identification can apply for an IDNYC card for free, regardless of immigration status. IDNYC does not grant you a license to drive, but it is accepted identification across the City government and in many other situations. Call 311 and say "IDNYC" or visit nyc.gov/IDNYC to schedule an appointment.

I have DACA. Will I lose my health insurance coverage?

Your current health insurance coverage is not immediately impacted by the DACA decision.

If you have work authorization through DACA, your employer may be providing you and your dependents with health coverage or other benefits. If your DACA expires and you lose your work authorization, that health coverage and any other benefits you receive from your employer may be at risk.

If you are a DACA recipient and have Medicaid coverage, you can renew your coverage for 12 months as long as your DACA status is active on the day you renew and you still meet other eligibility criteria for the program. In most cases, you can apply for renewal before your Medicaid expires. It is not clear yet if New York State will continue to provide Medicaid coverage for DACA recipients whose DACA status expires.

Help for DACA Recipients

- ActionNYC can offer **free, safe immigration legal help** in your community and in your language. Call **1-800-354-0365** between 9AM-6PM, Monday - Friday or call 311 and say "ActionNYC."
- NYC Well is a **free, confidential connection to mental health care**, in more than 200 languages, any time of day. Call **1-888-NYC-Well**, text WELL to 65173, or go to nyc.gov/nycwell

Take Action to Defend DACA

- Go to nyc.gov/DACA to learn more.
- Call your elected official to make your voice heard on DACA.
- **Volunteer** with the Mayor's Office to help at upcoming town halls, workshops, to help defend DACA. Visit nyc.gov/MOIAVolunteer or email MOIA-Volunteers@cityhall.nyc.gov.
- Invite the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to your community for a **Know Your Rights Forum**. Visit nyc.gov/InviteMOIA or call **(212) 788-7654** during business hours.

