

## Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Fact Sheet

The University of Wyoming is committed to providing information and support to employees and students affected by the rescission of the DACA program.

### DACA Overview:

On September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a [memorandum](#) rescinding the Obama administration's 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. DACA allowed young persons without lawful immigration status—who met [criteria](#)—to remain in the United States, to attend university, and to obtain employment. DACA also allowed students to travel/study abroad by making them eligible to exit and lawfully re-enter the country (known as “[advanced parole](#)”). DACA status was granted for a two-year period with the possibility of renewal for additional two-year periods.

### Key Points about the Rescission of DACA:

- Current DACA status and employment authorization remain valid until their stated expiration dates; however, DACA status is discretionary and can be rescinded.
- DHS will no longer accept [initial](#) (first-time) applications for DACA status; however, DHS will continue processing applications accepted by September 5, 2017.
- DHS will continue processing pending [renewal](#) applications.
- If a DACA recipient's status expires by [March 5, 2018](#), the recipient is eligible to apply for renewal; renewal applications must reach DHS by [October 5, 2017](#).
  - Employees or students in this situation should immediately contact Adam Severson at the University Wyoming College of Law at [\(307\) 766-2397](#) or [immsupport@uwyo.edu](mailto:immsupport@uwyo.edu). Mr. Severson will take meetings by appointment only.
  - The Consulate of Mexico in Denver is offering to pay the \$495 DACA renewal fee for Mexican citizens— T: [\(303\) 331-1110](#); E: [infodenver@sre.gob.mx](mailto:infodenver@sre.gob.mx).
- Approved applications for advanced parole remain valid until their expiration dates; however, DACA recipients should strongly consider consulting an immigration attorney before traveling outside the country.
- DHS will accept no new applications for advanced parole and has administratively closed all pending applications.
- DACA recipients whose status remains valid should still be able to obtain a Wyoming driver's license.

| *\*This document is for information only. Nothing herein constitutes legal advice or creates an attorney-client relationship.*

**UW Support for DACA Students and Employees:**

Any student at the University Wyoming who needs financial assistance can contact the Student Financial Aid Office for Emergency Funding. The Student Financial Aid Offices does not maintain DACA status as part of the student's financial aid record. Emergency Funding can help ease the additional financial burden caused by applying for DACA renewal. For assistance, students should contact Denise Jairell, associate director, Student Financial Aid Office, at (307) 766-3016.

Students and employees with DACA status should be encouraged to contact Adam Severson for information and legal support. Mr. Severson is a Colorado-licensed attorney and Robert J. Golten Fellow, UW College of Law. He will assist eligible students and employees to apply for DACA renewal by October 5, 2017, and screen interested students and employees to determine their eligibility for lawful immigration status. Students and employees eligible for lawful immigration status may be referred to outside attorneys for advice and/or representation.

Students and employees with DACA status can utilize counseling services as needed. Students can contact the University Counseling Center at (307) 766-2187; the center is located in Room 341 of Knight Hall. The University Counseling Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students can call an after-hours counselor at (307) 766-8989 or the Peak Wellness Center at (307) 745-8915 during the weekend and after business hours. Employees and their household members are eligible for up to six free counseling sessions per year through UW's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Contact HR or visit their website for additional information.

**UW Employees' Response to Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

Campuses are considered "sensitive locations," and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers are unlikely to come on campus unless there is a national security concern, imminent danger, etc. If in the future, ICE officers come to campus, employees should immediately call General Counsel at (307) 766-4997 and UW Police Department at (307) 766-5179. These areas can verify the subpoena, warrant or other court order and determine next steps. Employees at the university should not take on this responsibility.