



U.S. Department of Justice

Access to Justice Initiative

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Resource Guide on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Resource Guide

In an effort to encourage the dissemination of accurate information regarding DACA and to help individuals avoid immigration scams and the unauthorized practice of immigration law, we are providing you with this resource guide which mirrors information found on other U.S. Government websites.

Introduction

On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several key guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years, subject to renewal, and would then be eligible for work authorization. Deferred action is a discretionary determination to defer removal action of an individual as an act of prosecutorial discretion. Deferred action does not provide an individual with lawful status.

Guidelines

As described by the Secretary of Homeland Security, you may request consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals if you:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

For more information on this program, visit the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [website](http://www.uscis.gov) (www.uscis.gov) and click on the link for "[Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process](#)" landing page. The DACA Web page provides links to all the eligibility guidelines, forms, frequently asked questions (FAQs), related forms, and statistics. Many of the documents including the FAQs are available in multiple languages such as Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Tagalog.

Don't Be a Victim of Immigration Scams

For information on avoiding common immigration scams, how to report an immigration services scam, advice on finding authorized legal help, and educational tools please visit the [USCIS Avoid Scams webpage](http://www.uscis.gov/avoidscams) (www.uscis.gov/avoidscams).

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), an office within the Department of Justice, is tasked with the adjudicating immigration cases by fairly, expeditiously, and uniformly interpreting and administering the Nation's immigration laws. EOIR plays an important role in the Department's effort to combat immigration scams and provide accurate information about individuals or organizations that are accredited legal representatives. A sample of legal assistance information provided by EOIR can be found at these links:

- <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/UPILFlyer06222011.pdf>
- <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/legalrepresentation.htm>
- <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/probono/probono.htm>

Useful Links

U.S. Department of Justice

- U.S. Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review
Main Page: <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/index.html>
Free Legal Services: <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/probono/states.htm>
- U.S. Department of Justice Civil Division: Consumer Protection Branch
Main Page: http://www.justice.gov/civil/cpb/cpb_home.html
Combating Immigration Services Scams: <http://www.justice.gov/civil/cpb/notario.html>
- U.S. Department of Justice Access to Justice Initiative
Main Page: <http://www.justice.gov/atj/>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

- Main page: www.uscis.gov
- Spanish Language website: www.uscis.gov/espanol
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals
- Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law Initiative: www.uscis.gov/avoidscams
- Multilingual Resources: www.uscis.gov/multilingual
- Citizenship: www.uscis.gov/citizenship

Federal Trade Commission

- Main Page: <http://www.ftc.gov/>
 - Scams against Immigrants: www.ftc.gov/immigration
 - SPANISH : Estafas contra inmigrantes: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/node/650>
 - CHINESE: 由联邦贸易委员会提供的重要信息
<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/cpdf-0013-avoiding-scams-against-immigrants.pdf>

- CREOLE: [Kijan pou Evite Magouy Kont Imigran yo \[PDF\]](#)
<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/hpdf-0013-avoiding-scams-against-immigrants.pdf>
- VIETNAMESE: Thông điệp quan trọng từ Ủy Ban Thương Mại Liên Bang
<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/vpdf-0013-avoiding-scams-against-immigrants.pdf>

Immigrationlawhelp.org:

DOJ does not endorse or sponsor this website but provides it for informational purposes only.

<http://www.immigrationlawhelp.org/>

ImmigrationLawHelp.org is a searchable online directory of over 940 free or low-cost nonprofit immigration legal services providers in all 50 states. Only nonprofits that are Board of Immigration Appeals recognized or have attorneys on staff are included in the directory. Users can search ImmigrationLawHelp.org by state, county, or detention facility. Users can also refine their search by types and areas of legal assistance provided, populations served, languages spoken, other areas of legal assistance, and non-legal services provided. ImmigrationLawHelp.org was developed by the Immigration Advocates Network and Pro Bono Net with support from the Four Freedoms Fund.