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Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program Ended

On September 5, 2017, Acting Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Elaine Duke issued a memorandumⁱ explaining how the government is ending the DACA program. This is a human and civil rights crisis for the thousands of young adults in Michigan who depend on DACA to allow them to work and drive legally and be safe from deportation to countries they left as children. A "Frequently Asked Questions" documentⁱⁱ was also released. We encourage you to read the linked documents carefully if you are affected.

EXPIRATION DATES AND RENEWAL

This announcement does not automatically end DACA for anyone. Current DACA documents are valid until the expiration date.

- Eligible people whose first DACA applications have been filed and are pending should expect that those applications will be approved once for a two-year period but will not be renewed after that.
- Eligible people whose renewals are pending should expect that their renewal will be processed and will be valid for two years but will not be renewed after that.
- People who have not yet applied to renew but whose DACA expires between September 5, 2017, and March 5, 2018, can apply for renewal one final time as long as that application is *received* by USCIS before October 5, 2017.
- People whose current DACA does not expire until after March 5, 2018, will not be allowed to renew.
- Based on the current information released by USCIS, people whose DACA had expired before September 5, 2017, and who have not yet applied to renew their DACA will not be able to apply for renewal.

DRIVING

In Michigan, driver's licenses are issued to be valid for the same period of time that a person's proof of legal status is valid. So, when a person's DACA expires in the future, his or her driver's license will also expire. Unless he or she has obtained a different form of "legal presence" under Michigan law, the license will not be renewed.

STUDYING

High school students will still be allowed to attend public high schools after their DACA expires based on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982). No one can be required to provide proof of legal status for K-12 education. In Michigan, most public colleges and universities admit undocumented students and many allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition, but there is no uniform policy.



WORKING

Anyone currently working with a DACA Employment Authorization Document (EAD) should be allowed to continue working until the document expires on the date printed on the card. Unexpired DACA EADs are valid for new employment, too. Terminating someone or refusing to hire them because their EAD will expire in the future is illegal discrimination. Workers or employers with questions about the law should contact the U.S. Department of Justice Immigrant and Employee Rights Section at 1-800-255-7688 for workers and 1-800-255-8155 for employers.

CONTACT US

Anyone with questions about DACA status or who experiences difficulties with driver's licenses, school enrollment, or recognition of their valid Employment Authorization Document should call MIRC at (734) 239-6863 or our farmworker hotline at (800) 968-4046.

ⁱ Department of Homeland Security, [Memorandum on Rescission Of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\)](https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/memorandum-rescission-daca), September 5, 2017. Available at: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/memorandum-rescission-daca> (visited September 6, 2017).

ⁱⁱ Department of Homeland Security, [Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Rescission of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\)](https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/frequently-asked-questions-rescission-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca), September 5, 2017. Available at: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/frequently-asked-questions-rescission-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca> (visited September 6, 2017).