

Executive Summary



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

National Listening Session on Expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) January 13, 2015

On January 13, 2015 USCIS hosted a national listening session on the expansion of deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA). There were 1,114 participants on the call, including representatives of community and faith-based organizations, school districts, adult education programs, attorneys, state and local government representatives and congressional offices. During the engagement, USCIS provided an overview of the changes to DACA under the recent executive actions and sought stakeholder feedback on the obstacles individuals face in requesting DACA as well as the messaging and outreach strategies that would be most effective in disseminating information about DACA expansion.

Participants identified a number of challenges that may impede individuals' willingness to request consideration of DACA, including difficulty obtaining proof of presence in the U.S., particularly for individuals who were not continuously in school or were paid in cash for their employment, as well as a common perception that individuals whose DACA requests are denied will be placed into removal proceedings. Stakeholders also suggested USCIS further clarify continuous residence, physical presence and criminal history guidelines for expanded DACA and confirm whether there will be any revisions to existing advance parole procedures for DACA recipients. Some participants shared feedback on the implementation process, including asking USCIS to publish the revised Form I-821D in the Federal Register for public comment and emphasizing the importance of maintaining existing processing times. Other callers sought guidance on processes for requesting replacement employment authorization documents and obtaining missing receipt notices.

Stakeholders recommended hosting additional outreach events in the evenings, translating DACA educational materials into more languages and clarifying the differences between DACA and deferred action for parents of Americans and LPRs (DAPA) and providing guidance on whether individuals with pending applications for other benefit types are eligible to request DACA. Other areas needing clarification include the DACA guidelines, particularly which guidelines have changed under expanded DACA and which have remained the same. In addition, participants suggested that individuals may be more likely to request DACA if USCIS provided assurance that requesting DACA does not increase the chances that an individual or his or her family member will be placed in removal proceedings, unless that individual is found to be an enforcement priority. Participants were encouraged to join the DAPA listening session on January 26.



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Teleconference Invitation



Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Expansion
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015
2 p.m. (Eastern)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) invites you to participate in a listening session on **Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. (Eastern)** to discuss the expansion of DACA as part of the recently announced executive actions on immigration.

On Nov. 20, President Barack Obama announced a series of [executive actions](#), including expanding DACA to individuals of any age who came to this country before turning 16 years old and have been present since Jan. 1, 2010. This expansion of DACA will go into effect approximately 90 days following the announcement. The actions also extend the period of DACA and work authorization from two years to three years. During the listening session, USCIS officials will provide an overview of the new initiatives and seek your feedback on DACA expansion.

To register for this session, please follow the steps below:

- Visit our [registration page](#) to confirm your participation
- Enter your email address and select "Submit"
- Select "Subscriber Preferences"
- Select the "Event Registration" tab
- Provide your full name and organization
- Complete the questions and select "Submit"

Once we process your registration, you will receive a confirmation email with additional details. If you have any questions regarding the registration process, or if you have not received a confirmation email within two business days, please email us at public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov.

We look forward to engaging with you!