



## Chief Student Services Officers Association

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July 19, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

On Friday, July 16, a U.S. District Court judge for the Southern District of Texas ruled the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program illegal. His ruling will freeze new DACA applications while allowing existing renewals to continue-for now.

The ruling is disheartening and a disappointment but does not obscure the fact that DACA has improved the lives of thousands of young people and their families by allowing them to access and achieve better academic and economic opportunities. California community colleges serve nearly 200,000 DACA students, representing nearly one-third of the nation's student population. As student service leaders, we are committed to every student's success irrespective of immigration status. Without a permanent solution for DACA and a pathway to citizenship, our DACA students are left unjustly vulnerable. DACA students are contributing members of our communities and campuses and deserve the benefit of citizenship.

The Chief Student Services Officers Association remains steadfast in supporting and ensuring the success of our DACA students. We will continue to advocate for social justice and student equity for the diverse student body served by our California community colleges. We remain unapologetically committed to social justice and ensuring our DACA students have access to the education they so rightly deserve. We urge Congress to pass legislation to create a pathway to citizenship for our DACA and undocumented students.

The Association calls on our colleagues to continue to support undocumented students by leveraging available aid and resources for our DACA students. This recent court ruling has left many of our DACA students frustrated, frightened and unsure of what their futures hold. It is critical now, more than ever, to continue our efforts to ensure our campuses are inclusive and supportive for environments for all students; particularly for vulnerable student populations such as our Dreamers. Please use this time to redouble our efforts to support our DACA students and urge your local congressional leaders to pass legislation that will provide a permanent pathway to citizenship for our undocumented students.

In solidarity,  
Lataria Hall, Ed.D.  
Vice President of Student Services  
President, California Community College Chief Student Services Officers

***Ensuring Opportunities for Success for Every Student***