

Executive Summary



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

National Stakeholder Engagement on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) December 18, 2014

On December 18, 2014, USCIS hosted its bimonthly national stakeholder engagement on deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA). There were 717 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 reviewed the guidelines for DACA consideration and reminded participants of the importance of filing between 120 and 150 days before DACA recipients' current period of deferred action and employment authorization are set to expire to avoid potential accrual of unlawful presence and loss of employment authorization. In addition, USCIS informed participants that processing time for DACA renewals is 120 days and that USCIS will accept a service request through the National Customer Service 800 number or the online e-Request tool beginning at 105 days for individuals who have not yet received a renewal EAD.

Participants asked a number of questions about how criminal convictions may affect consideration for DACA, USCIS' Notice to Appear policy and educational guidelines for DACA renewal. In addition, a number of stakeholders requested clarification on USCIS' policy to extend DACA and employment authorization when USCIS has not made a decision on a timely filed renewal case and an employment authorization document (EAD) is set to expire, as well as the consequences of waiting to renew DACA until after the period of deferred action and the corresponding EAD have already expired and whether USCIS will automatically extend to three years the DACA and EAD of individuals who already received DACA renewal and an EAD for a two-year period. Several callers sought to clarify why USCIS requires two passport photographs as part of the I-821D package. Others requested information on the potential impact of DACA expansion on E-Verify and whether TPS beneficiaries and certain nonimmigrants can be considered for DACA. In addition, USCIS received a few questions about DACA requestors traveling outside the United States, including whether they are guaranteed re-entry and whether any such re-entry of a DACA recipient using an advance parole document would favorably impact their ability to apply for adjustment of status in the future.