



September 2017 Tip of the Month

Current Information about the DACA Program and DACA Renewal Help

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, the Trump Administration announced that DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) would be ending.

Here is important information to know and prepare for the phasing out of DACA:

- **CURRENT DACA HOLDERS:** A DACA recipient can continue to work until the individual work authorization permit expires or if it is revoked for other reasons. After the DACA work permit expires, individuals will be out of status. Current DACA holders:
 - Should get competent legal advice to determine if they may have other immigration available to them either now or in the future under the law.
 - Do not have an obligation to report the end of the program to employers. Employers do not have the right to ask employees if they are a DACA holder or how they got a work permit.
 - Seek legal help if an employer fires a DACA holder with a current work authorization.
 - Already have or apply for immediately a valid social security number and use this number to work with the DACA employment authorization document.
 - Already have or apply for immediately a state I.D. or driver's license.
 - Not travel out of the U.S.A.
- **NEW DACA APPLICATIONS:** No *new* DACA applications will be accepted by USCIS (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) after September 5, 2017.
- **PENDING DACA APPLICATIONS:** Pending applications filed before September 5, 2017 will continue to be processed.
- **DACA HOLDERS WHOSE PERMISSION EXPIRES BETWEEN 9/5/2017 AND 3/5/2018:** Anyone with DACA expiring between September 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018 may apply for a two-year renewal of DACA and work authorization. **All renewal applications must be received by USCIS by October 5, 2017.** For more information about how to obtain free help to renew by October 5, 2017, contact the Volunteers Lawyers Network immediately at (612) 752-6677.
- **DACA HOLDERS WHOSE PERMISSION EXPIRES AFTER MARCH 5, 2018:** Those who have DACA that expires after March 5, 2018 will not be allowed to renew DACA.
- **TRAVEL OUT OF THE USA:** Individuals with DACA will no longer be permitted to travel abroad.
- **FREE HELP FOR DACA RENEWALS:** Individuals who may be eligible to renew DACA should seek help immediately. VLN and other legal aid providers have expanded DACA renewal services to help DACA holders renew their DACA permission/work authorization by the October 5, 2017 deadline and to help with other DACA-related issues. VLN has special advice and *pro se* services available in Minneapolis, Rochester, St. James and Mankato. Call (612) 752-6605 for more information and to get an appointment.

- **OTHER RESOURCES:** Visit the VLN website for more detailed DACA-related information and resources at www.vlnmn.org/daca-info.