

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Frequently Asked Questions

If my application is accepted, may I TRAVEL outside of the U.S.?

In order to travel outside of the U.S., you must apply for advance parole by filing Form I-131, Application for Travel Document. You can file this form with ImmigrationDirect.com.

What is DEFERRED ACTION?

Deferred action is a policy to de-prioritize the removal of certain unlawful residents as an act of prosecutorial discretion. Essentially it means that ICE's top priority is the deportation of criminals and their lowest priority is the deportation of eligible candidates for this policy. It does not give you lawful status.

What is the APPLICATION PROCESS?

On August 15th, 2012, the USCIS will produce a form to apply for DACA. You can file this form with

ImmigrationDirect.com. You may not apply before August 15th; all applications submitted before this date will be rejected.

Once your application has been accepted, you may apply for work authorization through USCIS. You will need to file Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization Document. You can file this form with ImmigrationDirect.com.

What are the CRIMINAL disqualifications?

You must not have been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

What is THE POLICY?

If your application for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals is accepted you will not be placed into removal proceedings or removed from the United States for a period of two years subject to renewal. You will also be eligible to apply for work authorization.

What are the EDUCATION or MILITARY SERVICE requirements?

- ✓ You must be currently in school;
- ✓ Have graduated from high school;
- ✓ Have obtained a GED; or
- ✓ Be an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces.

What are the RESIDENCY requirements?

- ✓ You must have come to the United States before your 16th birthday;
- ✓ Continuous resided in the U.S. since June 15th, 2012; and
- ✓ Have entered without inspection before June 15th, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15th, 2012.

Can I apply if I'm in REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS?

If you are in removal proceedings you should apply through this process. If you are in immigration detention, you should request deferred action from your detention officer.

What are the AGE requirements?

- ✓ You must be at least 15 years old to apply unless you are in removal proceedings.
- ✓ You cannot be older than 31 years to apply.