

President Obama's Deferred Action for Parents Program

NOVEMBER 26, 2014

ON NOVEMBER 20, 2014, the president announced a new program now called **Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA)*** that will allow certain parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents to apply for temporary protection from deportation as well as work permits. (*Originally called "Deferred Action for Parental Accountability.")

Here's what we know:

- **To be eligible** for DAPA:
 - You must have lived continuously in the U.S. **since January 1, 2010**, been present in the U.S. **on November 20, 2014**, and be present in the U.S. when you apply for DAPA.
 - You must have a **son or daughter who was a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident** as of November 20, 2014. Your child may be of any age, and either married or unmarried.
 - You must **not have had a lawful immigration status** on November 20, 2014.
 - You must **pass a background check**. Certain convictions, such as felonies or some misdemeanors, could disqualify you. NILC will provide more analysis as additional information becomes available.
- People granted DAPA will receive protection from deportation and work permits for a period of **three years**. They will be able to apply to renew their DAPA at the end of the three-year period. We anticipate that people granted DAPA will also be able to apply for permission to travel abroad.

Here's what you can do:

- Even if you are eligible, **you cannot apply yet!** The government expects that it will start accepting applications for this program within six months of the day it was announced.
- If you believe you are eligible, **begin preparing now** by:
 - Gathering documents that prove that you (1) *were in* the U.S. on November 20, 2014; (2) *have been in* the U.S. since January 1, 2010; and (3) have a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident son or daughter. Visit www.nilc.org/toptenwaystoprep.html for examples of documents to gather.
 - Saving for the \$465 application fee.
- If you know someone who is **in immigration detention** who may be eligible for DAPA, tell them to talk to their case officer or call the ICE Information Line at 888-351-4024.
- **Do not take advice about your immigration case from a notary public or an immigration consultant.** Contact *only* a [qualified immigration lawyer or an accredited representative](#) for legal advice about your case. If you encounter notario fraud, [report it!](#)
- **Stay informed and sign up** at www.nilc.org/relief.html to receive updates, information about upcoming webinars, and new materials. To receive these updates by email, subscribe to our [Immigration Issues](#) email list (<http://tinyurl.com/mxbmyse>).

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