Entering its sixth year of existence, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program has provided temporary immigration relief to nearly 800,000 people. Despite the many successes of the program, the Trump administration announced in September 2017 that it would end DACA. More information about the ending of the program can be found at www.nilc.org/top-5-things-to-know-about-daca-ending/.

Congressional representatives from both political parties have introduced legislation that would provide relief to certain undocumented people who came to the U.S. as minors. To go into effect, these bills must first pass Congress and be signed by the president. Then the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) would be charged with implementing their provisions (creating application forms, etc.).

The table below compares, in a general way, the bills that have been introduced in Congress, as they currently stand. All but one of the bills would provide DACA-eligible and other undocumented people a path to U.S. citizenship. Notably, the SUCCEED Act contains provisions that undermine due process, restrict legal immigration, and penalize visa-holders.

**Note:** Hyperlinks to each of the bills are available in the top row of the table and in the endnotes. To learn more detail about the bills, we encourage you to read them, since the table focuses only on selected information. More information is available in our summaries of the BRIDGE Act and the Dream Act, as well as in a side-by-side comparison of DACA and the Dream Acts of 2010 and 2017.1 A list of acronyms used in the table is provided immediately after the table.

Table last updated OCTOBER 6, 2017 8

### Legislation to Protect DACA Recipients/Immigrant Youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRIDGE Act (H.R. 496)2</th>
<th>Recognizing America’s Children (RAC) Act (H.R. 1468)3</th>
<th>2017 Dream Act (S. 1615 &amp; H.R. 3440)4</th>
<th>Hope Act (H.R. 3591)5</th>
<th>SUCCEED Act (S. 1852)6</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of introduction</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sponsors &amp; cosponsors</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sponsors &amp; cosponsors</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 9, 2017</td>
<td>S. 1615</td>
<td>H.R. 3440</td>
<td>September 25, 2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>July 20, 2017</td>
<td>July 26, 2017</td>
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*This table’s original title was “Side by Side: DACA and Related 2017 Legislation.” When it was revised in Oct. 2017, a column with information about DACA was replaced by the SUCCEED Act column and the table’s title became “2017 Legislation to Protect DACA Recipients/Immigrant Youth.” The “2017” was dropped from the title on Jan. 8, 2018.*

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1. World Lending
2. CRS
3. CRS
4. W
5. CRS
6. CRSTable last updated OCTOBER 6, 2017 8

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Los Angeles (Headquarters)
3450 Wilshire Blvd. #108 – 62
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age limits</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Must have been born after June 15, 1981.</td>
<td>Must have entered the U.S. before age 16.</td>
<td>Must have entered the U.S. before age 18.</td>
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<td>Must have entered the U.S. before age 16.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must have entered the U.S. before age 16.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Removal proceedings may be stayed for those who are at least 5 years old, who are enrolled in school, and who meet additional requirements.&lt;sup&gt;7&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Must be younger than age 31 on June 15, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must be at least 15 years old at the time of applying under BRIDGE.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Continuous presence in the U.S.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Must have lived continuously in the U.S. from June 15, 2007, until the date of filing an application under the BRIDGE Act.</td>
<td>Must have lived continuously in the U.S. since January 1, 2012.</td>
<td>Must be continuously physically present in the U.S. for at least 4 years before the date of the bill’s enactment.</td>
<td>Must have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since December 31, 2016.</td>
<td>Must have lived continuously in the U.S. since January 1, 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel authorized by DHS (such as travel with advance parole) is not counted toward any period of departure from the U.S.</td>
<td>May not have left the U.S. for any single period of more than 90 days or for any periods totaling 180 days. (If the failure to timely return is due to exceptional circumstances beyond the individual’s control, DHS may extend these time limits.)</td>
<td>May not have left the U.S. for any single period of more than 90 days or for any periods totaling 180 days. (If the failure to timely return is due to exceptional circumstances beyond the individual’s control, DHS may extend these time limits.)</td>
<td>May not have left the U.S. for any single period of more than 90 days or for any periods totaling 180 days. (If the failure to timely return is due to exceptional circumstances beyond the individual’s control, DHS may extend these time limits.)</td>
<td>May not have left the U.S. for (1) any single period of more than 90 days, or (2) any periods totaling 180 days during a 5-year period. (If the failure to timely return is due to exceptional circumstances, DHS may extend these time limits by 90 days.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immigration status</strong></td>
<td>Not eligible if the person has a final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal, unless the person: (1) has remained in the U.S. after the order was issued, or (2) received the order before turning 18.</td>
<td>A person could qualify for CPR so long as the person has no lawful status. People with previous final orders of removal may apply. Also, people with DACA and temporary protected status (TPS) may apply.</td>
<td>A person could qualify for CPR if they have no lawful immigration status. People with previous and final orders of removal or voluntary departure or people in removal proceedings may apply.</td>
<td>Must not have had lawful immigration status on June 15, 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must not have had lawful immigration status on June 15, 2012.</td>
<td>A person may apply even if they are in removal proceedings or have a final removal or voluntary departure order. They also may apply if they are in immigration detention.</td>
<td>A person could qualify for CPR if they have no lawful immigration status. People with previous and final orders of removal or voluntary departure or people in removal proceedings may apply.</td>
<td>Not eligible if the person has a final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal, unless the person (1) has remained in the U.S. after the order</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Education Track and Military Service Track guidelines** | Currently in school or in an educational program aimed at obtaining a high school diploma or passing a GED exam; or, at the time of applying, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a GED certificate, or be an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or U.S. armed forces. | Education requirement for CPR—people 18 years old or older must meet one of the following requirements:  
- admitted to higher education institution in the U.S.; or  
- earned a high school diploma (or a high school equivalency diploma), a commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school or secondary school, a state-recognized GED certificate; or  
- has valid work authorization  
See “Process/path to naturalization” row, below, for additional requirements to become a lawful permanent resident (LPR). | Education requirement for CPR:  
- admitted to an institution of higher education; or  
- earned high school diploma or commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school, or obtained a GED certificate; or  
- enrolled in a secondary school or in an education program assisting students in getting a regular high school diploma, recognized equivalent, or GED  
See “Process/path to naturalization” row, below, for additional requirements to become an LPR. | Not applicable.  
Requirement for CPR status: If over 18 years old, must have:  
- earned a high school diploma, GED certificate, or high school equivalency diploma; or  
- been admitted to a higher education institution in the U.S.; or  
- served or enlisted in the U.S. armed forces.  
If under 18, must have enrolled in or be attending a primary, secondary, or postsecondary school. |
<p>| <strong>Work Track option?</strong> | No | Yes | Yes. Can apply for LPR status after 8-year conditional period based on employment (see “Process/path to naturalization” row, below). | Not applicable. | Yes. Work is an option for maintaining CPR status in order to renew it (see “Process/path to naturalization” row, below). |
| <strong>Good moral character and background check</strong> | Has not been convicted of a felony offense. Has not been convicted of a “significant misdemeanor” offense or of three or more misdemeanor offenses. | Must meet the moral character standard definition under INA section 101(f). Must not be inadmissible or deportable on certain grounds. | Has not been convicted of certain crimes. Expunged convictions will not automatically disqualify the applicant from eligibility for CPR status. | Has not been convicted of certain crimes. Inadmissibility for certain crimes may be waived. Must pass a background check. | Must meet the moral character standard definition under INA section 101(f). Must not be inadmissible or deportable on certain grounds. |</p>
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<th>BRIDGE Act (H.R. 496)&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Must not pose a threat to national security or public safety  
Must pass a background check. | Waivers may be granted for certain situations.<sup>13</sup>  
Must not have been convicted of any state or federal offense punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than one year, or any combination of state or federal offenses for which a sentence of imprisonment for a total of more than one year was imposed.  
Must pass a background check. | Inadmissibility for certain crimes may be waived.<sup>12</sup>  
Must pass a background check. | Waivers may be granted for certain situations.<sup>16</sup>  
Has not been convicted of a felony offense.  
Has not been convicted of one or more offenses with a sentence totaling more than one year.  
Has not been convicted of a “significant misdemeanor” offense.  
Must pass a background check. |

**Process/path to naturalization**

No path to U.S. citizenship.  
People who are eligible for—or who already have—DACA may receive work authorization and provisional protected presence (PPP) for at most three years.  
People who do not have DACA would have to apply for PPP (under BRIDGE).  
People who have DACA would automatically have PPP until the date their DACA expires. Upon expiration, they could apply for PPP (under BRIDGE).  

| STAGE 1 | Apply for CPR status, valid for an initial period of 5 years. (See previous rows, above, for requirements.) | STAGE 1 | Apply for CPR status, valid for an initial period of 8 years. (See previous rows, above, for requirements.) | STAGE 1 | Apply for CPR status, valid for an initial period of 5 years. (See previous rows, above, for requirements.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| STAGE 2 | Reapply to keep and extend CPR status for another 5 years. Applicants over age 18 must have fulfilled one of the following:  
• enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education in the U.S. within one year after obtaining CPR status, and remained enrolled; or  
• been employed for a total period of 48 months during the 5-year period since obtaining CPR status; or  
• enlisted in the armed forces within 9 months of obtaining CPR status (A person who was dishonorably discharged is not eligible.) | DNC recipients acquire CPR status, unless they have engaged in conduct that would otherwise make them ineligible for DACA.  
DACA recipients may apply the requirements.) | STAGE 2 | After 3 years with CPR, a person may apply for LPR status if they:  
• have not abandoned their residence in the U.S.  
• have not committed certain criminal offenses  
• pass a background check<sup>17</sup>  
DACA recipients may apply the time they have had DACA toward the 3-years-with-CPR requirement. | STAGE 3 | May apply for U.S. citizenship after 5 years in permanent resident (CPR and LPR) status.  
Time in CPR status will count toward 5-year permanent |
| STAGE 3 | Applicants who meet certain requirements may apply for LPR | Have done one of the following:  
• acquired a degree from an institution of higher education, or  
• completed at least 2 years in a bachelor’s degree program, or  
• served for at least 2 years in the uniformed services or have been honorably discharged, or | Have done one of the following:  
• have completed a combination of state or federal offenses punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than one year, or any combination of state or federal offenses for which a sentence of imprisonment for a total of more than one year was imposed.  
• have not abandoned their residence in the U.S.  
• have not committed certain criminal offenses  
• pass a background check  
DACA recipients may apply the time they have had DACA toward the 3-years-with-CPR requirement.  
DACA recipients may apply the time they have had DACA toward the 3-years-with-CPR requirement. |

**2017 Legislation to Protect DACA Recipients/Immigrant Youth**

- **BRIDGE Act (H.R. 496)**
  - Must not pose a threat to national security or public safety
  - Must pass a background check.

- **Recognizing America’s Children (RAC) Act (H.R. 1468)**
  - Waivers may be granted for certain situations.
  - Must not have been convicted of any state or federal offense punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than one year, or any combination of state or federal offenses for which a sentence of imprisonment for a total of more than one year was imposed.
  - Must pass a background check.

- **2017 Dream Act (S. 1615 & H.R. 3440)**
  - Inadmissibility for certain crimes may be waived.
  - Must pass a background check.

- **Hope Act (H.R. 3591)**
  - Waivers may be granted for certain situations.

- **SUCCEED Act (S. 1852)**
  - Has not been convicted of a felony offense.
  - Has not been convicted of one or more offenses with a sentence totaling more than one year.
  - Has not been convicted of a “significant misdemeanor” offense.
  - Must pass a background check.
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| status immediately after receiving the second, 5-year CPR. They do not have to wait until the 5-year period ends. However, they must apply for LPR status within 10 years of receiving CPR status. | • been employed for periods totaling at least 3 years, at least 75 percent of which time was working with valid employment authorization (if the person was not working, they must show that they were enrolled in school or an education program).  
• A hardship exception may be available for people who do not meet at least one of the four requirements listed immediately above. | residence requirement for naturalization. CPR (3-8 years) → LPR (2+ years) → Eligible for citizenship (total of at least 5 years) | opportunity to appear before an immigration judge). |
| **STAGE 4**  
Applicants who get LPR status are eligible to apply for citizenship after 5 years with LPR status.  
CPR (5-10 years) → LPR (5 years) → Eligible for citizenship (total of at least 10 years) | Pass a background check.  
**NOTE:** DACA recipients do not have to wait 8 years to apply for LPR status; they can apply immediately. | **STAGE 2**  
CPR status can be renewed for 5 years if the person meets certain requirements, including:  
• not using federal public benefits  
• showing good moral character during the first CPR period  
• not having any delinquent tax liabilities  
• meeting work, education, or military-track requirements. | **STAGE 3**  
After 10 years in CPR status, can apply to be an LPR. Must show good moral character and not leave the U.S. for more than 365 days total.  
CPRs and LPRs cannot petition to immigrate their spouse or children. |
| **STAGE 3**  
After 10 years in CPR status, can apply to be an LPR. Must show good moral character and not leave the U.S. for more than 365 days total.  
CPRs and LPRs cannot petition to immigrate their spouse or children. | **STAGE 4**  
After 5 years of LPR status, can apply for citizenship.  
CPR (10 years) → LPR (5 years) → Eligible for citizenship (total of 15 years) | Fees determined by DHS.  
Must have paid any federal tax liability or be on a payment plan to do so.  
Fees determined by DHS. | Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability. | Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability.  
Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability. |
| Fees and back taxes | Fees and back taxes | Fees and back taxes | Fees and back taxes | Fees and back taxes |
| Fees determined by DHS. Fee exemptions will be available in very limited circumstances. | Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability. | Fees determined by DHS, with fee exemption possibility for qualifying individuals. | Fees determined by DHS. |
| Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability. | Fees determined by DHS.  
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Fees determined by DHS.  
Satisfy any federal tax liability. |
ACRONYMS USED IN THE TABLE

| CFR – conditional permanent residency | GED – general education development (certificate) |
| DACA – Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals | INA – Immigration and Nationality Act |
| LPR – lawful permanent resident | PPP – provisional protected status |
| TPS – temporary protected status |

NOTES


5. Removal proceedings either will be stayed or will not be initiated for people who are at least 5 years old; are enrolled in elementary school, secondary school, or an early childhood education program; and meet the requirements to be a conditional permanent resident (entered the U.S. before age 18, have been continuously present for four years, etc.). People who meet these requirements can apply for employment authorization.

6. A more detailed analysis of the criminal and inadmissibility grounds for the Dream Act and related legislation can be found in the Immigrant Legal Resource Center’s table at https://www.ilrc.org/chart-Dream-Act-criminal-grounds.

7. Applicant must not be inadmissible under INA § 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (6)(E), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(D); must not be deportable under INA § 237(a)(1)(E), (1)(G), (2), (4), (5), or (6).

8. Waiver may apply for ground of inadmissibility under INA § 212(a)(1), (4) or (6) and for deportability under INA § 237(a)(1).

9. Waiver available for crimes for which immigration status is an essential element, a misdemeanor (or its equivalent), or any other offense that is not a crime of violence.

10. Waiver available for crimes in INA § 212(a)(2), (3), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(E).

11. Inadmissibility for certain crimes may be waived for humanitarian purposes or family unity, or if the waiver is otherwise in the public interest. Waiver is available for crimes in INA § 212(a)(2), (6)(E), (6)(G), or (10)(D).

12. Applicant must not be inadmissible under INA § 212(a)(2), (3), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(E).

13. Waiver available for crimes for which immigration status is an essential element, a misdemeanor (or its equivalent), or any other offense that is not a crime of violence.

14. Applicant must not be inadmissible under INA § 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (6)(C), (6)(E), (8), (9)(A), (9)(C), or (10); must not be deportable under INA § 237(a)(1)(D), (1)(E), (1)(G), (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6).

15. Waiver may apply for ground of inadmissibility under INA § 212(a)(1), (4), (6)(B) or (6)(E) and for deportability under INA § 237(a)(1)(A), (B), (C), or (E).

16. The person may apply for LPR status 6 months before the date of their 3-year period if the person expects to meet the requirements for LPR status.

17. This bill expands the definition of “federal public benefit” to include American Opportunity Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit, Health Coverage Tax Credit, federal or state unemployment benefits, Social Security benefits, and Medicare.