

# Hispanic Affairs Project



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## **HAP Reopens DACA Renewal Assistance for Qualified Applicants in Response to January 2018 Preliminary Injunction**

January 15, 2018

For immediate distribution

As of January 13, 2018, USCIS, which is the agency responsible for processing applications for certain types of immigration benefits, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), announced that, “Due to a federal court order, USCIS has resumed accepting requests to renew a grant of deferred action under DACA. Until further notice, and unless otherwise provided in this guidance, the DACA policy will be operated on the terms in place before it was rescinded on Sept. 5, 2017.”

Therefore, the Hispanic Affairs Project, a regional non-profit organization with authorization from the Department of Justice to provide legal representation for some types of applications, has resumed legal assistance to those that may qualify to renew their DACA. Applicants in the Grand Valley should call (970) 250-5387 to request an appointment to evaluate whether they may qualify to renew their previously granted deferred action under DACA. Those DACA recipients living elsewhere in the western slope can call (970) 249-4115 or (970) 209-1807. The announcement also states that, “USCIS is not accepting requests from individuals who have never before been granted deferred action under DACA. USCIS will not accept or approve advance parole requests from DACA recipients.” So no first-time applicants for DACA can file at this time.

This announcement will affect those young people who had previously been granted DACA, but it had expired on or after September 5, 2016.

Another group of people is also affected by the injunction: those that had previously been granted DACA but whose DACA had then expired prior to September 5, 2016. As of January 13, 2018, they may also file a new *initial* DACA application.

The Hispanic Affairs Project is accepting donations to fund this critical work through the Legal Assistance Program, as well as scholarship donations to help young people that may need a short term loan to pay the legal and application fees.

A looming political deadline of January 19, 2018 means that the Dream Act is still critical for ensuring a permanent fix for these young people.

Visit [www.hapgj.org](http://www.hapgj.org) for more information.