

South Orange County Community College Faculty Association Statement on DACA

Approved by Representative Council, 10/2/17

The South Orange County Community College Faculty Association (SOCCCFDA) denounces the decision by the Trump administration to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which could lead to as many as 800,000 young people being deported, including many students within the California Community College system. DACA, which provides renewable two-year work permits for undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children, was created by President Obama in 2012 and has been a pathway to education and employment for over 240,000 students in California alone. One of the major factors that makes American higher education a world class system is the diversity of our faculty and students. We owe it to these students and their families, as well as to other undocumented young people, to speak out against this action in the strongest manner possible.

We applaud the State of California and the University of California for filing lawsuits against the Trump Administration for rescinding DACA. We also applaud the California Community College (CCC) Chancellor's office for making resources available for our undocumented students at <http://www.cccco.edu/ResourcesforUndocumentedStudents.aspx>, and we urge all faculty to direct students to this site.

We ask faculty to immediately communicate with their students that individuals with DACA permits that expire on or before March 5, 2018, can file for renewals until October 5, 2017. No new renewals will be accepted after this date so urge them to act now. Students who cannot afford the \$495 renewal fee can apply for scholarship from the Mission Asset Fund at <http://lc4daca.org/>.

We further call on our members to urge Congress to act immediately to undo President Trump's action and allow these young scholars to remain in our classrooms.