# Human Resources Administration Department of Social Services

#### **FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ADMINISTRATION**

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#### **POLICY BULLETIN #15-61-ELI**

(This Policy Bulletin Replaces PB # 15-24-ELI)

### DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) STATUS AND POTENTIAL BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY

Subtopic(s):				
Non-Citizen, Immigration Status, Alien				
Revisions to the Original Policy Bulletin				
This policy bulletin is being revised to:				
<ul> <li>Inform staff that an individual denied Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status may be eligible for State funded Medicaid.</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Remind staff to refer individuals who have applied for and/or have been granted DACA status and need assistance in renewing their immigration documents to contact Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs at 212-788-7654 or 311.</li> <li>Correct the definition of the acronym USCIS to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.</li> </ul>				
Purpose				
The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform Job Center and Non-Cash Assistance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NCA SNAP) staff that non-citizens who have applied for and/or been approved for relief from removal under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program may be eligible for state funded benefits. These individuals are considered to be Permanently Residing Under the Color of Law (PRUCOL) for benefit purposes.				

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE? Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center Fax* or fax to: (917) 639-0298 On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and met several guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two or three years, subject to renewal. They are also eligible for work authorization. Deferred action is a use of prosecutorial discretion to defer removal action against an individual for a certain period of time. Deferred action does not provide lawful status.

These individuals may be eligible for Safety Net Cash Assistance (SNCA) and/or state-funded Medicaid (MA) under PRUCOL. There are different benefits for an individual dependent upon meeting the requirements for the status of applicant for DACA or approval for DACA. Each category has different requirements as described below.

#### **Applicants for DACA**

If an individual provides an **I-797** Notice of Action or Notice of Receipt indicating that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has received the following forms and that they are pending, then the individual is an applicant for DACA:

I-821D Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

- **I-765** Application for Employment Authorization (specifically mentioning category, class or type **C33**)
- Any other authoritative USCIS or Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) document indicating <u>pending</u> Application for Employment Authorization Form I-765 <u>specifically mentioning</u> category, class or type C33 or c33

Additionally, if the results of a Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) clearance indicate that a non-citizen has a pending Application for Employment Authorization Form I-765 specifically mentioning category, class or type C33 or c33, he/she would be considered an applicant for DACA.

An <u>applicant</u> for DACA, is eligible <u>only</u> for state funded (MA), if other eligibility criteria are met.

Benefit eligibility

Revised

Refer to PD # 14-26-SYS for detailed instructions on SAVE

#### **Approval of DACA**

If an individual provides any of the following documents, the individual has been <u>approved</u> for DACA and may be eligible for SNCA and state funded MA, if other eligibility criteria are met:

- I-766 Employment Authorization Card with category code C33 or c33
- I-797 Notice of Action indicating approval of USCIS form I-821-D
- Any other documentation from the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR) or USCIS indicating that a DACA application has been approved.

#### **Verification**

required.

To assist with verification of immigration documents, staff must always request a SAVE clearance. Staff must complete the SAVE Referral (W-515X) form in the Paperless Office System (POS) Form Data Entry window, print the completed form from the POS Print Forms window and submit it to the center's SAVE liaison.

If there is an outage in POS, the worker may print out a blank **W-515X** from e-docs and complete it manually.

If the Form **W-515X** is completed manually, the form must be scanned and indexed into the case record before submitting it to the SAVE liaison.

For individuals who have only submitted an I-797, the JOS/Worker should also go to the USCIS website (<a href="http://www.uscis.gov/">http://www.uscis.gov/</a>) and utilize the "Check Case Status" tool on the middle of the page. With this tool, the JOS/Worker can enter the receipt (notice) number from the I-797 to see if there are any updates regarding the individual's application for DACA. If the results of the search indicate that the individual is approved for DACA, then he/she may be eligible for SNCA and state-funded MA. If the results indicate that the individual has been denied, he/she is not eligible for SNCA benefits but may be eligible for state funded MA. A separate Medicaid determination is

Use <u>www.uscis.gov</u> to check on case status when <u>only an **I-797** is <u>submitted</u></u>

Revised

Refer to PD#12-08-ELI
For the Medicaid
Separate Determination
Process

When a determination is being made based on the results of a search on the USCIS website, the results page <u>must</u> be printed, scanned and indexed as verification from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) or other authoritative documents into the case record and stored in the Personal Documents folder.

Additionally, a detailed case comment must be entered identifying that the USCIS website was used to make the determination.

## Request Clearance from Office of Refugee and Immigrant Affairs

After the results from the SAVE clearance or USCIS website are received, the Job Opportunity Specialist (JOS)/Worker <u>must</u> additionally request a clearance from the Office of Refugee and Immigrant Affairs (ORIA) by completing the Office of Refugee and Immigrants Affairs (ORIA) Clearance Request Form (ORIA-195(E)) and e-mailing it to ORIA@hra.nyc.gov. The ORIA-195(E) must be scanned and indexed into case record.

Individuals who have applied for and/or have been approved under DACA <u>do not</u> meet the federal benefit criteria of a qualified alien and <u>are not</u> eligible for federally funded benefit programs such as Family Assistance (FA), SNAP or federally funded MA. Staff are reminded that benefits must not be delayed, denied, reduced or terminated pending a response from SAVE and/or USCIS.

Expired Immigration Documents

Revised

When an expired immigration document is used to verify immigrant status, the non-citizen must renew his/her immigration documentation with USCIS.

If the individual needs assistance in renewing his/her documentation, staff are directed to assist by referring the individual to:

- The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs at 212-788-7654, or
- 311 or
- <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/imm/html/deferred\_action/assistance.">http://www.nyc.gov/html/imm/html/deferred\_action/assistance.</a>
   shtml

Effective Immediately

FIA Policy, Procedures, and Training

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Office of Procedures

#### Reference:

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Toolkit: Resources for Community Partners

#### **Related Items:**

PD#14-26-SYS PD#13-09-ELI PD#12-08-ELI

#### **Attachment:**

 □ Please use Print on Demand to obtain copies of forms. **ORIA-195(E)** Office of Refugee and Immigrant Affairs (ORIA)

Clearance Request Form

## OFFICE OF REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS (ORIA) CLEARANCE REQUEST FORM

Date:	//				
Staff	Name of Staff (Last, First	:):	Center #:		Contact Tel #:
Information					
	1				
Client	Name of client including alias: WMS case#			ЛS case#:	Date of Birth:
Information					//
	First:				
	Last:		US	CIS #:	Social Security number:
	Alias if any:				
	Male □	emale $\square$			
Document	Immigration documen	t/Form title & number		Category Code	Required Additional information
information	Permanent Resident Card			e.g.: FX2, IR6, R8-6, CU-7, C09, CR6	Expiration date (if any)
	Yes □ No □				, ,
					//
	Employment Authorization Card form I-766 or I-688B:  Yes  No  No			e.g.: A09, (a)(9), C08, (c)(8),	Category code[e.g. A05, (a)(5)]
					OR Provision of law (e.g. ["8 C.F.R. § 274a.12(a)(5)"]
	USCIS Notice of Action or Notice of receipt form I-797:			Receipt number: Starts with: MSC, ESC, LIN + 10 digits	
	Yes 🗆	No □			
	SAVE Clearance (515X)				A) as well as any description of
	Requested:	Yes □ No □		the client's immigratio	n status indicated in SAVE:
	Requesteu.	res 🗆 NO 🗆		COA (e.g. IR6, IR0, CR6	
	Scanned and Indexed:	Yes $\square$ No $\square$			
	SSA 40 Quarters match	 Yes □ No □		Date of Entry:	
	TELL TO QUARTETO ITIACOTT			Date of status:	
Additional Notes:					