## **DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) EXPANSION**

On November 20, 2014, the President of the United States outlined several areas in which the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will take action to increase border security, focus enforcement resources, and ensure accountability in our immigration system.

## Pursuant to this announcement, the DHS Secretary expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) eligibility.

Since 2012, grants of deferred action through the DACA program have successfully allowed DHS to deprioritize individuals based on humanitarian concerns, administrative convenience, and the Department's overall law enforcement mission. However, eligibility was limited to those who were under 31 years of age on June 15, 2012, who entered the U.S. before June 15, 2007, and who were under 16 years old when they entered.

## The expansion of DACA includes the following changes in eligibility:

- Removes the age cap: Expanded to cover all aliens who entered the U.S. before the age of 16.
- Validity Period: Extends DACA renewal and work authorization period to three-years.
- Adjusts the date-of-entry requirement: Now applies to aliens who were physically present in the United States since January 1, 2010.

Although U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is not yet accepting applications under the expansion of DACA, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will review the cases of detained individuals to determine if they may be eligible to seek deferred action.

I am	What to do to Request Prosecutorial Discretion
Currently <u>detained and in removal</u> <u>proceedings</u> before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR).	If you would like your EOIR proceedings administratively closed, you or your attorney should contact the ICE Office of Chief Counsel that is handling your case before EOIR. Office contact information is available on the ICE website at: <a href="http://www.ice.gov/contact/legal">http://www.ice.gov/contact/legal</a> .  You should provide your full name, alien registration number (A-number), and the status of your case, and may also include the reasons you believe you are eligible to seek deferred action.
Currently <u>detained with a final</u> <u>order of removal</u> .	ICE is actively reviewing detained cases for potential deferred action eligibility, but you should contact your Deportation Officer, if you believe you may be eligible.  You may also call the ICE ERO Detention Reporting and Information Line (DRIL), toll-free, at 1-888-351-4024 to make your request. The DRIL is operational M-F 8am – 8pm EST, and English and Spanish operators are available.
	9116# *Detention Pro Bono Access Code

## **Additional Information**

You may need to provide information to prove that you meet the requirements listed above.



Nothing in this notice should be construed to prohibit the apprehension, detention, or removal of any alien unlawfully in the United States or to limit the legal authority of DHS or any of its personnel to enforce federal immigration law.