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RECENT CHANGES TO DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA): AN UPDATE FROM CATHOLIC MIGRATION SERVICES

January 15, 2018

Due to a federal court order issued on January 9, 2018, USCIS has resumed accepting renewal applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Until further notice, individuals previously granted DACA may request a renewal of their status and employment authorization. USCIS is not accepting applications from those who have never before received DACA.

What this announcement means:

If you previously received DACA and your DACA expired on or after September 5, 2016, you may file a renewal request. Renewal requests can be made up to 180 days (6 months) before your work permit expires.

If your DACA expired before September 5, 2016, or it was terminated at any time, you may file a new initial request now. However, if you have never received DACA in the past, you are not allowed to file an initial application at this time.

Travel with DACA:

It is no longer possible to submit an application for Advance Parole (permission to re-enter the United States granted in advance of travel abroad) as a DACA recipient.

Expiration of DACA and Enforcement:

According to DHS, as of now, “information provided in DACA requests will not be proactively provided to other law enforcement entities (including ICE and CBP) for the purpose of immigration enforcement proceedings unless the requestor poses a risk to national security or public safety, or meets the criteria for the issuance of a Notice To Appear or a referral to ICE under the criteria.” However, this policy may change at a later time.

Catholic Migration Services urges anyone who currently receives DACA to call our office and schedule an appointment as soon as possible. Please visit our website periodically at www.catholicmigration.org for information pertaining to DACA assistance.