DACAmented Students Abroad

Creating Institutional Connections to Support Student Success
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) - Use of prosecutorial discretion by immigration authorities to not remove undocumented individuals who arrived in U.S. as children.

Advance Parole - Students with DACA can apply for this document to allow them to enter the U.S. if they meet certain criteria.
Introductions

Nicole Desjardins Gowdy - Director of Study Abroad, Pomona College

Miriam Feldblum - Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, Pomona College (& Visiting Fellow, Migration Policy Institute)

Paula Gonzalez - Immigration Attorney

Erick Velasquez - Student, Pomona College
Overview of DACA

- Temporary protection from deportation
- Permission to work
- Social Security number
- Drivers licence/State ID Card
- Stop accruing “unlawful presence”
- Possibility to travel abroad
Overview of Advance Parole

Qualifying Reasons include:

Humanitarian: medical reasons, family member illness, death

Education: study abroad, research, fellowship

Employment: conference, training, work assignment

USCIS Form I-131 + Statement of Purpose + Supporting evidence (Cost: $360)
Discussing my work as an immigration attorney with other alumni, was told that there were DACA students at Pomona. Had been wanting to volunteer at the college, approached Dean Feldblum about working pro bono with DACA and undocumented students.

Speak individually and in groups to students regarding issues on their DACA and AP applications, discuss immigration history to determine possible problems.
Legal Issues to Consider

Advance Parole does not guarantee entry into the United States. Student must be “admissible.”

- Immigration History:
  - Does the student have a removal (deportation) order?
  - Any history, stops or detention by INS/ICE or CBP?
  - Were parents ever in removal (deportation) proceedings when student was a child?
  - Any misrepresentation or false claim of US Citizenship to government official?
  - Unlawful presence issues.

- Criminal history:
  - Does the student have a criminal history that could cause problems? Even cases that have been expunged or dismissed could cause problems.

- Elections:
  - DACA could be dismantled by a new president. Should not be stuck abroad if a new president has pledged to dismantle DACA.
Timing issues

- DACA must be current when student applies for AP to study abroad.
- Must have Advance Parole before student leaves US or will lose DACA status.
- DACA should not expire while student is abroad.
- Student must travel within the “issue date” and return date. (Some reports that USCIS has denied DACA renewals if student travel before “issue date.”)
- Plan ahead, applications with USCIS may take many months.
What Part of Legal Immigration Don't You Understand?

Opponents of illegal immigration are fond of telling foreigners to "get in line" before coming to work in America. But what does that line actually look like, and how many years (or decades) does it take to get through? Try it yourself!

UNITED STATES CITIZEN

Are you related to a parent, parent-in-law, or minor child?

[Branch 1]

Are you the parent, parent-in-law, or minor child of a U.S. citizen?

[Yes]

[No]

Are you related to a parent, parent-in-law, or minor child?

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Undocumented Students: National Context

Source: "In the Shadows of the Ivory Tower" (Undocuscholars Project, 2015)
Support for Students with DACA at Pomona

- Undocumented students = domestic students
- Listening & learning from students
- Visibility on websites
- Student mentor groups
- Faculty and campus partners
- Funding for fees, emergency grant assistance
- Alumni assistance - legal, off campus resources
- Training, training, training
- Rules Matter
- Think broadly

http://unitedwedream.org/blog/5-proactive-steps-for-college-administrators-to-support-undocumented-students-in-your-schools/
DACA and Study Abroad at Pomona

- Collaboration with Dean of Students (DOS) Office
- Collaboration with student groups
- Collaboration with faculty/staff mentors
- Information sessions on DACA and study abroad
- Encouraging self-identification on Advising Intake Forms
- Early advising and extra support for students with DACA
- Resource for legal advice
- Letter of support for Advance Parole application
- Advocacy with study abroad programs, Congresswoman
- Student mentors
DACA Students Abroad from Pomona

15 students on semester programs since spring 2014

Study abroad countries: Brazil, Ecuador, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Morocco, South Korea, Spain, United Kingdom

Countries of origin: Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Korea, Mexico, Uruguay
Advising - Additional Questions to Consider

- When does your DACA expire?
- Do you have a passport?
- When does your passport expire?
- What country is your passport from?
- Will you need a visa for destination?
- What does visa process include for that country?
- Can you apply for visa from U.S.?

Based on the answers, determine timeline and when is the best time to study abroad.
Tips and Lessons Learned

Begin process early. Ducks in a row: DACA, passport, SA application, Advance Parole, visa

Extra coaching may be needed

Travel:
- Check airlines for familiarity with Advance Parole prior to booking
- Minimize stops during travel and plan extra time for layovers
- Request extra time in AP application
- Advance visas

Momentum builds on campus
Erick Velasquez, PO’16

Study Abroad Program - University of Cambridge

Quick facts about me:

- Born in San Salvador, El Salvador
- Immigrated to the United States at age 9
- DACA recipient (2012)
- QuestBridge National College Match Recipient (2012)
- Senior chemistry major
- Interested in promoting diversity in science
- Will be continuing on to PhD. program in chemical biology at UCI and working at Genentech.
Cambridge!!!
Q & A
Group Discussion

What strategies does your office/institution use to reach out to and/or support students with DACA in study abroad?

Who are helpful contacts/collaborators at your institution?

What are some tips and lessons you’ve learned?
Next Steps

One idea to implement

One contact on campus to reach out to

One contact here who can be a resource
Additional Resources

NAFSA Resource Page on DACA
Own the DREAM
Pomona College
UC Berkeley
UT Austin
Advance Parole Application
CLINIC - Advance Parole for DACA Recipients
Educators for Fair Consideration
National Immigration Law Center
Migration Policy Institute - data resource
## Top 15 States with DACA Eligible Populations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th># Eligible for 2012 DACA &amp; 2014 Expanded DACA</th>
<th>In-State Tuition Policy</th>
<th>Eligible for State Financial Aid</th>
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<tr>
<td>CA</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>187,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>FL</td>
<td>79,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>IL</td>
<td>78,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes - privately funded</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>63,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>49,000</td>
<td>No (Barred from top universities)</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>39,000</td>
<td>Limited to DACA recipients</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>38,000</td>
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<td>PA</td>
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Data Source: Migration Policy Institute
Policy Source: See Resources slide
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