

## CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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September 28, 2017

**To:** CEOs  
**From:** Eloy Ortiz Oakley  
**Subject:** DACA Advocacy Week, October 16 – 20  
Local Action Needed

Dear Colleagues,

In response to President Trump's recent decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, my office has been working with the Community College League of California (League), the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC), and the Student Senate of California Community Colleges (SSCCC) to encourage local advocacy in support of DACA and the over 200,000 young people in California impacted by the decision to rescind the program. The educational future of thousands of our students is in doubt and thus I am pleased to join with our organizational partners in announcing the week of October 16–20 as *DACA Advocacy Week* and to encourage community colleges to take the following actions to express support for DACA:

1. **Pass a Resolution in Support of DACA.** Last week, the Board of Governors approved a resolution, [available here](#), expressing steadfast support for DACA recipients and other undocumented students in the California Community College system, and calling on Congress to take immediate and permanent action to preserve the DACA program and further work toward comprehensive immigration reform. I want to thank the many local governing boards across the state that have passed [resolutions](#) in support of DACA. I encourage those who have not to consider similar action. A model resolution can be found by [clicking here](#).
2. **Congressional Advocacy Meeting.** During the week of October 16-20, the U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to recess for members to be home in their districts. I am calling on all community colleges to set a district meeting with congressional representatives or field staff to express support for the continuation of the provisions of DACA and ask for a permanent legislative solution. This meeting should emphasize the broad support for the DACA program, and represent a wide coalition of supporters, including students, families, faculty and employees, college administrators, influential statewide organizations, and local community college district trustees. The attached *DACA Congressional Visit Instructions* has been designed to help guide your meeting planning. The *DACA Advocacy Week Talking Points* will help frame your conversation with your representative. After your meeting please return the attached *DACA Advocacy Meeting Report Form* to Vice Chancellor Laura Metune at [lmetulan@ccco.edu](mailto:lmetulan@ccco.edu). This information will be used to facilitate and support additional system advocacy efforts.
3. **Support Student and Staff Advocacy.** In addition to the meetings that I hope your college will be scheduling during DACA Advocacy Week, the SSCCC will be coordinating phone banks and gathering postcards to demonstrate student support for DACA. My office and the League will be supporting these efforts and raising awareness of these activities over the coming months. In

order to facilitate their actions and help make our student voices heard, I ask that when possible, you also support them in their efforts.

DACA Advocacy Week provides an opportunity to join a statewide community college effort to defend this vital program. I encourage college leaders at all levels to collaborate with like-minded groups for purposes of assembling advocacy teams and scheduling meetings with congressional representatives during this week in October. Only by joining together – students, faculty, staff and college leadership – will we make it clear to our congressional representatives the need for a permanent solution for DACA participants which includes a path for citizenship for our students.

Additional resources will continue to be made available on the [Chancellor's Office website](#). During this time of uncertainty, I urge all community colleges to stand strong in support of our students, which begins with a legislative remedy for those protected by DACA.

If you have any questions, please contact Vice Chancellor of Governmental Relations, Laura Metune, at (916) 323-5951 or [lmetulan@cccco.edu](mailto:lmetulan@cccco.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'EOO', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eloy Ortiz Oakley  
Chancellor