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Subject: California Community Colleges, University of California and California State University Issue Joint Statement on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Ruling



California Community Colleges



Contact: Mike Uhlenkamp Office: 562-951-4800 E-mail: <u>muhlenkamp@calstate.edu</u>

CSU The California State Universi

Contact: Meredith Turner Office: 916-296-2280 Email: <u>meredith.turner@uco</u> p.edu

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SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- California Community Colleges Interim Chancellor Daisy Gonzales, PhD., University of California President Michael V. Drake, M.D., and California State University Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester, PhD. released the following joint statement after the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' decision upholding the State of Texas, et al., v. United States (2021) ruling that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program is unlawful:

"We are deeply troubled by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' decision, which holds that the DACA program violates federal law. We support the decision to allow current DACA recipients to avoid immediate disruption to their lives and also to seek extensions of their DACA status. Even as we hope that this decision is overturned, the uncertainty it creates is untenable. DACA recipients deserve to have their status as equal Americans protected from court decisions like this one.

We remain fully committed to working with California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Attorney General Rob Bonta and our students, faculty, and staff to advocate for permanent pathways to citizenship so undocumented Californians can pursue their academic and professional goals without fear of deportation.

Since its implementation 10 years ago, DACA has protected thousands of undocumented students in California and hundreds of thousands across the United States from deportation as they pursue their college degrees. Today, recipients are first responders, medical professionals, educators, scientists, and serve in a host of other critical professions. They have made and continue to make positive contributions to our local, state, and federal economies and communities.

We stand by our students, faculty, and staff. They are vital and valued members of our campus communities. Our systems are dedicated to the continued success of all our undocumented students, many of whom do not participate in DACA.

Undocumented and DACA students can enroll and stay enrolled in California's public colleges and universities. The decision of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals does not change our mission to welcome and serve all students. This is what we have always done, and we will not waver. We will continue to do all we can to ensure our undocumented students feel safe and supported on our campuses."

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

We urge DACA students, faculty, and staff to make a free appointment with a legal services provider as soon as possible to renew their DACA application:

California Community Colleges Higher Education Legal Services: <u>FindYourAlly.com</u> University of California Immigrant Legal Services Center: <u>ucimm.law.ucdavis.edu</u> California State University Legal Support Services: <u>calstate.edu/attend/student-services/resources-</u> <u>for-undocumented-students/Pages/legal-support-services.aspx</u>

California Community Colleges

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 73 districts and 116 colleges serving 1.8 million students per year. California community colleges provide career education and workforce training; guaranteed transfer to four-year universities; and degree and certificate pathways. As the state's engine for <u>social and</u> <u>economic mobility</u>, the California Community Colleges supports the <u>Vision for Success</u>, a strategic plan designed to improve student success outcomes, increase transfer rates and eliminate achievement gaps. For more information, please visit the <u>California Community Colleges website</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook, Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

University of California

The University of California opened its doors in 1869 with just 10 faculty members and 40 students. Today, the UC system has more than 280,000 students and 227,000 faculty and staff, with 2.0 million alumni living and working around the world.

California State University

The <u>California State University</u> is the largest system of four-year higher education in the country, with 23 campuses, 477,000 students and 56,000 faculty and staff. Nearly 40 percent of the CSU's undergraduate students transfer from California Community Colleges. The CSU was created in 1960 with a mission of providing high-quality, affordable education to meet the ever-changing needs of California. With its commitment to quality, opportunity and student success, the CSU is renowned for superb teaching, innovative research and for producing job-ready graduates. Each year, the CSU awards more than 132,000 degrees. One in every 20 Americans holding a college degree is a graduate of the CSU and our alumni are 4 million strong. Connect with and learn more about the CSU in the <u>CSU NewsCenter</u>.