DACA Frequently Asked Questions

1. I THOUGHT DACA WAS RESCINDED. WHAT HAPPENED?
DACA renewals are currently being accepted, due to several federal court decisions throughout the country. For more information, see DACA Litigation Timeline.

2. CAN I APPLY FOR DACA IF I’VE NEVER APPLIED BEFORE?
No. USCIS is currently not accepting initial DACA applications.

3. CAN I APPLY FOR ADVANCED PAROLE?
No. USCIS is not accepting applications at this time.

4. CAN I RENEW MY DACA IF I’M ELIGIBLE?
Yes!
You will need: □ Form I-821D □ Form I-765 □ Form I-765WS □ A front and back copy of your current Employment Authorization Document (EAD) □ Check or money order for $495 made to “US Department of Homeland Security” □ 2 passport-style photos □ Any other documents as required by the instructions on each form

5. WHEN SHOULD I RENEW MY DACA?
Renew your DACA as soon as possible if it expires in the next 12 months, so long as you continue to remain eligible. You do not have to wait until 150 days before your DACA expiration date to submit your request to renew DACA.

6. CAN I RENEW IF MY DACA EXPIRED MORE THAN A YEAR AGO?
Yes. If you received DACA before September 5, 2016 and you didn’t renew, you may renew your expired DACA by submitting an initial DACA application and supporting documents. If your DACA expired on or after September 5, 2016, but you did not renew, then you may renew your expired DACA by filing a DACA renewal application.

7. HAVE THE DACA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CHANGED?
No. the eligibility requirements for DACA have not changed. Please speak with a qualified attorney before renewing your DACA if you have had any contact with police or immigration authorities, or if you have changed your address.

8. CAN I GET HELP WITH MY DACA RENEWAL?
Yes! Our services are free to current UC students and immediate family members. Please contact your campus attorney for help.

9. CAN I GET HELP WITH MY $495 DACA FEE?
Please check with your campus attorney to see if your campus provides assistance with the $495 DACA Filing Fee, or if you qualify for state-sponsored funding through the UC Immigrant Legal Services Center to cover this fee.
A Federal Judge in San Francisco ordered USCIS to resume accepting DACA renewals. This blocks the U.S. government from terminating the DACA program nationwide.

A Federal Judge in New York also ordered the U.S. government to temporarily continue accepting DACA renewal applications.

The US Supreme Court denied the U.S. government’s request to make an early decision on the legality of the CA and NY rulings.

A Federal Judge in Maryland ruled that the Trump Administration has the authority to terminate DACA.

USCIS will continue accepting DACA renewals until a court decides to lift these injunctions.

However, USCIS will continue accepting DACA renewals because the CA and NY cases remain in effect nationwide. The Federal Judge also ruled that the government should continue protecting information on DACA applications.

A Federal Judge in D.C. ordered the US government to also resume accepting initial DACA applications.

However, this decision is on hold at this time. USCIS is not accepting DACA initial applications or Advanced Parole applications.

A Federal Judge in Texas issued a decision in a lawsuit filed by Texas and 6 other states to stop DACA.

The Texas Judge decided not to issue an injunction, meaning that renewals can continue at this time until the case moves forward.

The Ninth Circuit issued a decision upholding Northern California District Court’s January 9, 2018 decision.

This means the preliminary injunction remains in place and DACA Renewals can continue moving forward at this time.

The Supreme Court did not decide to put the DACA case on their calendar yet.

As of right now, this means that it is becoming more likely that the DACA case will not be heard by the Supreme Court before October 2019.

The language in these FAQs is not intended to serve as formal legal advice. We will update these as soon as we hear more information.