# What You Need To Know – Deferred Action for DREAMers

Applications are online at [www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals](http://www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals). Don’t be a victim of fraud: contact only a qualified immigration attorney or a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative to obtain advise on your case.

## What is Deferred Action?

- Deferred action is a discretionary determination to defer removal action of an individual.
- Deferred action does not confer lawful status upon an individual.
- A person granted deferred action will not be considered to be accruing unlawful presence in the United States during the period deferred action is in effect.
- Deferred action can be terminated at any time at the agency’s discretion or renewed by the agency.

## Who qualifies for Deferred Action for DREAMers?

1. Arrived in the United States under the age of sixteen;
2. Continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007 and was present in the United States on June 15, 2012;
3. Currently enrolled in school, graduated from high school, obtained a general education development certificate (GED) or are honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Coast Guard or Armed Forces;
4. Have not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety;
5. Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012 or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012
6. Are currently at least 15 years old and was under 31 years of age on June 15, 2012.

## What Does Deferred Action Give Me?

- Employment authorization (must show "an economic necessity for employment.")
- Deferral of removal for two years.

With valid Employment Authorization, you can obtain:

- Employment
- Social security number
- Driver’s License (we believe that state law permits DREAMers to obtain driver’s licenses)

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## DREAMers in Removal Proceedings, Detained or About to Be Deported

**May Obtain Immediate Protection!**

**Other Important Information**

- If you have a final order of removal, but meet all of the requirements, you may still be eligible.
- Family members of DREAMers are not eligible for this protection unless they independently qualify.
- If you travel outside of the US after August 15, 2012, you will not be considered for deferred action.
- **ATTENTION:** If you have any arrests or prior immigration history, consult with an immigration attorney before applying for any benefit with immigration authorities.

**Get Ready … Start Collecting Documents!**

**Identity**
- Birth certificate
- Passport
- National identity document
- School ID with photo

**School/Military History**
- School and military records
- GED certificate
- High school diploma

**Good Moral Character**
- Police clearance letter
- Certified dispositions for any arrest/conviction
- Community support letters

**Physical Presence**
- School records
- Taxes,
- Medical records

All documents must be translated into English

## For more information contact:

- Catholic Charities at 402 939-4615, or jossyr@cccomaha.org
- Justice for Our Neighbors at 402 898-1349, or jfon@jfon-ne.org
- El Centro Hispano (Columbus) at 402-564-2110, or maria@centrohispanos.com
- Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska (Lincoln) at 402-474-1600, or www.cssisus.org

or visit
- www.weownthedream.org  |  www.neappleseed.org

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This Fact Sheet is not intended as legal advice. It is advisable to consult an immigration attorney to determine whether you are eligible for any benefit under immigration law or policy.

Adapted from Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights | National Immigrant Justice Center

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