

Vote YES on LB623 to strengthen Nebraska and help keep talented youth in our state

Thousands of young immigrants, their communities, and our state have benefited in a variety of ways from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program started 2012. (DACA is a program of the Department of Homeland Security to temporarily defer deportations of qualifying individuals.) Now those individuals who were granted DACA are able to continue their education, work, and contribute to their communities.

However, Nebraska is the only state in the country that does not allow DACA youth to obtain a driver's license.

Providing driver's licenses to Nebraska DREAMers is good for everyone's public safety.

It is in our state's best interest to have as many taxpayers licensed and insured as possible.

LB 623 will allow young Nebraskans to contribute their talents more fully to our economy and communities.

By passing LB623, Nebraska can ensure these young people can continue to contribute to the state's economy and society by providing them the opportunity to obtain a driver's license.

Many of these young immigrant Nebraskans were only infants or toddlers when they came to the U.S., have lived almost their entire lives in this country, and know Nebraska as home.

By not providing them a driver's license, these youth continue to be held back and cannot reach their full potential. We, as a state, risk losing these talented young Nebraskans to other states, where they would be provided a driver's license.

There is broad Nebraska support for LB 623, including:

Nebraska Cattlemen Association | Nebraska Restaurant Association |
League of Women Voters of Lincoln/Lancaster County | Young
Nebraskans in Action | Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Omaha |
Justice for our Neighbors | Heartland Workers Center | Latino Center of
the Midlands | Latino American Commission | Nebraska Appleseed |
Brown Immigration Law | ACLU of Nebraska |
Centro Hispano Comunitario | Nebraska Retail Federation
| and many others

(Over for more information about DACA)



Background on DACA

What is DACA?

- Deferred Action is a decision of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) not to deport or initiate enforcement against a person.
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is one category of deferred action for young people who grew up in the U.S. and meet certain criteria. Others can also receive deferred action, such as victims of domestic violence under the Violence Against Women Act and certain victims of human trafficking. **All other deferred action categories in Nebraska receive driver's licenses except DACA youth.**
- Does not lead to Permanent Resident Status.
- Grants recipients a temporary work permit, which is renewable if deferred action is renewed.
- While an individual has DACA, s/he is not considered to be accruing unlawful presence in the U.S.

What are the Qualifications to apply?

- Entered the U.S. before the age of 16.
- Currently at least 15 years old.
- Must have been under 31 years old as of June 15, 2012.
- Must have been in the U.S. continuously for five years prior to June 15, 2012.
- Physically present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012.
- Currently enrolled in school, obtained a high school diploma or GED certificate, or are honorably discharged from the US Coast Guard or Armed Forces.
- Has not been convicted of a felony or significant misdemeanors.
- Does not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

DACA Applications in Nebraska

- From August 2012-2013 there were a total of 2,500 requests for DACA in Nebraska; 2,300 were approved.
 - 1,200 out of the 2,500 applicants were 20 years old and older (many who are working and going to school.)
 - 1,000 approved requests came from the Omaha-Council Bluffs area.
 - Most recently, as of September 20, 2014, USCIS had received 3,717 applications for DACA, of which 677 were renewals.
- 