

# How to best support your DACA Students



## WHAT HAPPENED?

What's happening with DACA?

- DACA is still valid
- Renewals are still being accepted!
- New applicants are not being accepted at the moment
- The rule does not expand DACA for folks who never qualified.

On July 16, 2021, Texas federal court Judge Hanen published his opinion on the DACA case, which challenged the legality of the DACA policy. Judge Hanen's opinion is that DACA is not a lawful policy, but for now will allow those with existing DACA -- and those whose DACA lapsed less than a year ago -- to continue to renew. No initial DACA requests will be processed at this time.

## 1

### KEEP YOURSELF INFORMED

- As we are waiting for the new administration to be sworn in, we are expecting various updates in the news in regards to DACA. To avoid misinformation being spread, make sure the news you are receiving comes from a reliable source. Utilize DACA updates from organizations such as United We Dream and UnLocal posted on our social media pages.
- Find out if there is a local immigration raid rapid response team in your community. These teams usually consist of attorneys, media personnel, and community leaders who may be able to provide support in the case of immigration-related emergencies.



## 2

# CREATE A SAFE SPACE IN YOUR CLASSROOM

- Create a safe space. Use inclusive language and safe-space visuals in your classroom that include undocumented and immigrant families.
- Recognize immigrants' resilience, power, and agency. Engage with an open mind. Don't make assumptions. Support those who are directly impacted in identifying solutions that work for them.
- Normalize having conversations about immigration status and policies that could affect your students and their families. It is important to pay attention to local, state, and federal policies and create classroom conversations based on the news around students.
- Facilitate spaces around DACA and its impact on your community, such as community healing circles.



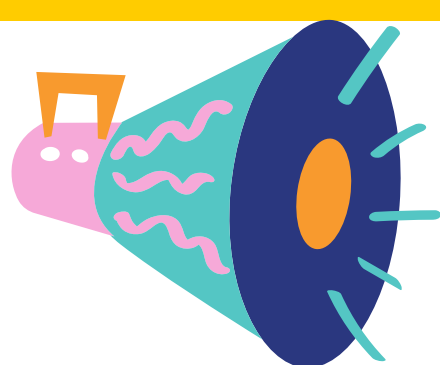
## 3

# WHAT IS RULEMAKING AND PUBLIC COMMENT?

Rulemaking is the process that federal agencies use when it wants to create, change, or delete rules that are used to carry out policy.

Once federal agencies have drafted language for a rule they then open it up to a 30-60 day comment period. Public comments are an important opportunity to have your voice heard. By submitting a public comment you can provide your thoughts on the proposed rule and influence the way the final rule is written. The government has to read every single comment that is submitted, by law.

Anyone can participate by submitting a comment, no matter their immigration status.



## 4

# SHARE RESOURCES TO ALL FAMILIES ON DACA & OTHER IMMIGRATION POLICIES

- Create a resource corner or a virtual resource folder in your classroom that includes up to date resources on mental health, alternative paid employment opportunities, and legal aid resources for immigrant families.
- Partner with a local organization to host Know Your Right sessions, Family Preparedness plans, and pro-bono legal support in person or virtually. If you are interested in collaborating for a presentation, contact UnLocal at [diana@unlocal.org](mailto:diana@unlocal.org).



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