

## Historical Background of DACA

### What was DACA?

- Introduced by Obama administration in June 2012
- Allowed some illegal and undocumented immigrants to receive exemption from deportation based on request to USCIS for deferred action for a period of two years, subject to an additional renewal period of two years
- To be eligible for DACA, the illegal and undocumented immigrant must have:
  - Been under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012
  - Come to U.S. before reaching 16 years of age
  - Continuously resided in U.S. since June 15, 2007 up to the present time
  - Incurred no lawful status on June 15, 2012
  - Been currently enrolled in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school or a general education (GED) certificate, or have been honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces or Coast Guard
  - Not convicted of a felony, serious misdemeanor, or three or more misdemeanors, and not otherwise pose a threat to national security
  - Been physically present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012 and at the time of making the request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS

### What Were the DACA Benefits?

- Protected DACA recipient from being deported for two years, subject to additional two-year renewal
- Allowed for Application for Employment Authorization Document (“EAD”) granting U.S. work authorization for two years, subject to additional two-year renewal
- Allowed application for Social Security Card and qualification for a driver’s licenses in most states
- Permitted access to services that require government-issued identification card
- Allowed for application for advanced parole/travel document allowing international travel for humanitarian, educational or employment purposes
- Allowed undocumented immigrant to qualify in many states for in-state tuition
- Benefited more than 750,000 undocumented immigrants who came to U.S. as children
- Eligible only for Medicaid emergency services
- States had own option to provide with state funds Children’s Health Insurance Program and Medicaid to children under 21 and/or pregnant women
- Generally did not provide eligibility for food stamps, welfare, Supplemental Security Income, Children’s Health Insurance Program or Medicaid or Obamacare