



August 28, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We understand that your administration is considering the future of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy. We write today to strongly urge you to ensure that DACA continues to remain in effect until a longer term solution can be put in place.

You have said on several occasions that your administration would seek to help Dreamers because, as you rightly noted, they are "incredible kids." The high-achieving young people in DACA contribute in many ways to our nation. Preserving their status while your administration and Congress work on a permanent solution is the humane way to respond to the situation these innocent young people are facing. Children brought to the United States at a young age did not have a choice in the matter. It remains in America's best interest to enable them to use their knowledge, skills and energy to make the strongest possible contribution to our country.

At present, roughly 800,000 individuals are registered under DACA. To qualify, applicants must pass a rigorous, multi-faceted test. They must have arrived in the United States before age 16, have resided here continuously since 2012, be enrolled in or have completed high school, have not been convicted of a serious crime, and not present a threat to national security or public safety. The United States is the only country they know: They are American, just like their classmates and friends, in every way but immigration status.

These bright and talented young people are working, serving in the armed services or studying at colleges and universities. Because they now have work permits, they are making contributions to our society and our economy. They are paying taxes and buying cars, homes, and consumer goods, which generates economic activity and increases tax revenue for federal, state and local governments. While they contribute significantly to our economy, they are ineligible for federal means-tested welfare benefits, Pell Grants and federal student loans, and health care tax subsidies. According to a recent study by the CATO Institute, deporting those currently in DACA would cost over \$60 billion in lost tax revenue and result in a \$280 billion reduction in economic growth over the next decade.

You may recall that on March 16, 2017, 560 college and university presidents sent you a letter requesting that you preserve DACA (see attached). On behalf of these college leaders, we urge you to continue your promise to support the Dreamers and preserve DACA while seeking a permanent solution, and allow these productive and high-achieving individuals to continue to work, study and contribute to our great country.

Sincerely,



Ted Mitchell
Incoming President



Molly Corbett Broad
President

On behalf of:

ACT

AACRAO: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

American Association of Community Colleges

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Council on Education

American Dental Education Association

Association of American Law Schools

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of American Colleges and Universities

Association of American Universities

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

Association of Community College Trustees

Association of Jesuit Colleges & Universities

Association of Governing Boards of University and Colleges

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Association of Research Libraries

College and University Professional Association for Human Resources

Council of Graduate Schools

Council of Independent Colleges

Council for Advancement and Support of Education

Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

Council for Opportunity in Education

EDUCAUSE

Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities

Law School Admission Council

NASFA: Association of International Educators

NASPA – Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education

National Association for College Admission Counseling

National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education

National Association of College and University Business Officers

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

National Association of System Heads

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

University Professional and Continuing Education Association