

DACA and DAPA Programs Timeline

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) had planned to begin accepting applications for the expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program on February 18, 2015, and for the new Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) program in May 2015. USCIS delayed the launch of both expanded DACA and DAPA due to a federal ruling blocking their implementation. DACA was intended as a temporary measure to protect some immigrants from threat of deportation until Congress can act to pass a more permanent solution.

The timeline to the right depicts the administration's steps and the course of legal challenges to DACA and DAPA and predicts what may happen in the coming year.



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June 15, 2012

President Obama announces DACA.

Aug. 15, 2012

USCIS begins accepting applications for DACA.

Nov. 20, 2014

President Obama announces DACA expansion to include more people and creation of DAPA for the parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.

Dec. 3, 2014

Texas sues on behalf of 17 states in U.S. District Court to block DACA expansion and DAPA. Other states later joined the lawsuit, totaling 26.

Feb. 16, 2015

Judge Andrew Hanen of the Southern District of Texas grants a preliminary injunction to block DAPA and DACA expansion.

March 12, 2015

The Obama administration files an appeal to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sept. 30, 2015

By end of the 2015 fiscal year, about 700,000 people are approved for DACA under the initial two-year terms, and about 445,000 have been renewed.

Nov. 9, 2015

The 5th Circuit rejects the government's appeal.

Nov. 20, 2015

The Obama administration files appeal with the Supreme Court.

Jan. 19, 2016

Supreme Court announces it will take *U.S. v. Texas*, considering a constitutional challenge.

Future Actions

April 18, 2016

Supreme Court heard oral arguments.

Late June, 2016

Likely timeframe for a ruling by the Supreme Court.

Summer 2016

When the expansion of DACA could possibly take effect.

Fall 2016

When USCIS could open application process for DAPA