



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:

AACRAO: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
ACT
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
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
NAFSA: 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