



# **DACA Update:**

Community College Initiatives to Support Dreamers

AACC Commission on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity
AACC Fall Meeting, Arlington, VA
November 16, 2017





### What is CCCIE?

- A national network of community colleges and other organizations committed to supporting immigrant education through their innovative programs and services.
- Hosted and led by Westchester Community College, Valhalla, N.Y.
- o Guided by a Blue Ribbon Panel of community college leaders and other experts

#### **CCCIE's Mission:**

CCCIE (<u>www.cccie.org</u>) builds the capacity of community colleges to accelerate immigrant and refugee success and raises awareness of the essential role these colleges play in advancing immigrant integration through education.

### **Current Initiatives:**

- o Action-based research
- o Thought leadership
- o Technical assistance
- Advocacy and outreach





# Supporting Students Through College Completion:

- What should community college's role be to ensure access and completion for immigrant students, including DACA-mented and undocumented students?
- What steps are colleges taking to support Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Dream Act?
- What campus and community resources are available to ensure the well being and success of community colleges' diverse student populations?









## Proactive steps to support undocumented students:

- Executive level reaffirmation of college's commitment to diversity and inclusiveness as core values
- Creation of "safe zones" and Dreamer Resource Centers
- Training for counselors, staff and faculty
- FAQs and connection to resources (e.g. "Know Your Rights" flyers)
- Information sessions, legal clinics offered with community partners
- Scholarships for immigrant students
- Advocacy in support of DACA and bipartisan Dream Act

11/14/2017



# If DACA ends, implications for students will be:

- Financial hardship
- Psychological impact
- Restrictions to:
  - √academic and career programs
  - √internships
  - √travel
  - √ athletics
  - √drivers license





# Westchester Community College, Valhalla, NY:

- · SUNY Chancellor/Board of Trustees and President Belinda Miles' Statement of Support for DACA and Undocumented Students
- NY In-State Tuition still intact
- Welcome Center: Holding DACA information sessions, pro bono legal clinics, and citizen preparation workshops
- Bilingual Counselors: Career advisers; Mental Health Office
- Benefits Access Center
- · Scholarships, Emergency Assistance Grant
- Presentations, Guest speakers—Immigrant issues
- · Curriculum and diversity initiatives



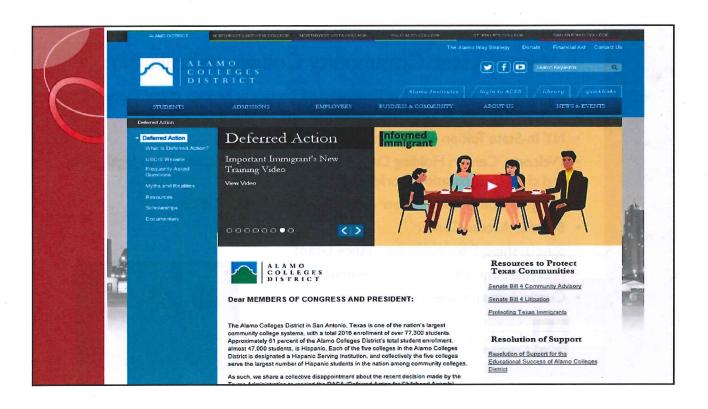




# Alamo Colleges District, San Antonio, TX



- ACD Trustees' Resolution and Chancellor Statement of Support for Undocumented Student DREAMers
- District-wide, cross-functional Dreamer Advisory Council
- Virtual Dreamer Resource Center <a href="http://www.alamo.edu/district/daca/">http://www.alamo.edu/district/daca/</a>
- Intentional promotion of dual credit/early college high school
- Extensive community outreach, including:
- ✓ Enrollment drive for Dreamers
- ✓ Assistance in applying for financial aid and scholarships
- ✓ City-wide DACA information sessions and legal clinics
- ✓ The Dream.US Scholarship Fund workshops (<a href="http://www.thedream.us">http://www.thedream.us</a>)





## **Recommended Resources**

- CCCIE Toolkit: 10 Things Educators Can Do To Support Undocumented and DACAmented Students
- CCCIE's Review of Dreamer Resources
- Educators for Fair Consideration
- National Immigration Law Center
- United We Dream
- My Undocumented Life Blog







### **Our Commitment**

CCCIE is committed to building community colleges' capacity and sharing these best practices and resources to keep colleges connected and prepared to support their immigrant and undocumented student populations.

## Our Campaign

Presidents for New American Success Pledge <a href="http://cccie.org/presidents-pledge/join-the-pledge">http://cccie.org/presidents-pledge/join-the-pledge</a>



### How Can You...

- Solicit the broadest support for immigrant student success within your institutions?
- Develop an immigrant education strategy?
- Build a community of supporters and an environment conducive to success for all immigrant students, including DACA-mented and undocumented students?
- Work with community partners to create academic and career pathways for immigrant students?
- Empower immigrant students as leaders?
- Change the immigrant narrative?



## **Contact Information**

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