

University of Denver
Efforts to support Students who identify as having
DACA Status or are Undocumented
April 25, 2017

Currently at the University of Denver, there are several efforts underway focused on providing support to students and employees on campus who are either personally impacted or have close friends or relatives impacted by the recent [immigration executive action](#) issued by the White house on January 25, 2017. Students who identify as having Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or as undocumented have been most impacted or could be most impacted by this action. In response, various individuals and groups on campus have been working on ways to respond. Below is a summary of these various efforts.

Immediate Student Support Resources

Vouchers to access legal council

Vouchers give access to a free legal consultation at Catholic Charities. It will give the community an opportunity to discuss any questions, concerns, and additional information they have with an immigration attorney.

For more information on the Vouchers contact:
Alfredo Gallegos
Assistant Director, Center for Multicultural Excellence
303-871-7652
alfredo.gallegos@du.edu

Anthea Johnson Rooen
Director, Graduate Student Success, Center for Multicultural Excellence
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Gary Brower
University Chaplain
303-871-4480
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Linda Quintanar
Director, VIP
303-871-2943
linda.quintanar@du.edu



Family Focused Resource Forum

Saturday, May 13th 10AM-12PM, the University will host a Community Forum on Immigration: How to Survive Under the Trump Administration. The forum will be open to the members of the DU community and their families. The event will be hosted in Craig Hall, Community Room. The forum will give the opportunity to interact with local community resources and legal experts to get practical answers about immigration policies, their impacts and how to navigate the current political climate. The forum will give community members the opportunity to network with others and make connections.

For more information on the Community Forum on Immigration and Vouchers contact:

Alfredo Gallegos

Assistant Director, Center for Multicultural Excellence

303-871-7652

alfredo.gallegos@du.edu

Mental Health Support

The Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University Denver will be offering a **5-week** Mindfulness and Stress Reduction Group at the Trauma & Disaster Recovery Clinic. The group is offered by students from the Latin@ Psychology Specialty and supervised by Dr. Jennifer Paz. The purpose of the group is to provide a safe place for students who may be experiencing increased stress related to the recent political changes and anti-immigration climate. The group will provide mindfulness based interventions to increase coping skills and overall stress management. The group **cost will be \$5.00 per person, per session**. If you are interested in participating in this group, **please call 303-871-3087**. There will be **8 slots available**. Groups will be offered April 24th to May 22nd on Monday evenings from 6:15 pm - 7: 45 pm.

For more information on the mental health support contact:

Fernand Lubuquin, PhD

Clinical Associate Processor

Director of Diversity

Clinical Director of Professional Psychology Clinic

303-871-3988

fernand.lubuquin@du.edu

Henrietta "Hetty" Pazos, PsyD

Director-Latin@ Psychology Specialty

Clinical Assistant Professor

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Immigrant Student Collaborative

Recognizing that peer support is one of the most important resources students can access, a student collaborative group has been created. The purpose the group is to provide space for students who share similar challenges and experiences related to their immigration status and allow for sharing of practical strategies, resources and ways to navigate DU and beyond. The group will be sponsored by Marco Dorado of the Latino Leadership Institute, who himself has DACA status. Any student interested in connecting should contact Marco directly for meeting times and locations.

For more information, contact:

Marco Dorado

Program Coordinator

Latino Leadership Institute

303-871-6742

Marco@latinoslead.org

Long Term Structural Changes

Immigrant Student Working Groups

In order ensure the University of Denver campus community is able to provide a safe and equitable experience to its immigrant students, Vice Chancellor Liliana Rodriguez will establish two working groups to identify and address any barriers, road blocks or challenges. One group will focus entirely on the graduate student experience and the other will focus on the undergraduate experience. The working groups will identify specific challenges and make recommendations for solutions or improvements. Both groups will be staffed by Associate Vice Chancellor Johanna Leyba, Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence.

For more information on the mental health support contact:

Johanna Leyba

Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence

303-871-7661

johanna.leyba@du.edu



Internal Data Security

The Registrars Office and University Technology Services (UTS) have worked together to ensure student data is not accessible to general DU employees who normally have access to student data. Ongoing discussion will take place to continue evaluating and determining any additional steps that need to be taken to ensure protection of students' data.

For more information contact:

Dennis Becker

Registrar

303-871-3897

dennis.becker@du.edu

University Employee Protocols

To ensure University employees are well informed on protocols, policies and practices when/if interacting with Federal Law Enforcement Agents/Agencies, a campus-wide memo has been drafted and will be distributed. The memo will provide all employees with specific requirements and expectations to protect the privacy of DU Students under FERPA and under DU policies. Additional training may be developed to enforce these protocols.

For more information contact:

Dennis Becker

Registrar

303-871-3897

dennis.becker@du.edu

University Employee Training

The Division of Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence is currently piloting training for staff to understand the basic needs of students who identify as immigrant students (either undocumented or DACA status) and those who have family and friends who identify as such. Training will provide baseline information, share resources and provide guidance as to how to best support such students. This training can be replicated and or offered to the broader DU community.

For more information contact:

Darsella Vigil

Darsella.Vigil@du.edu



Ongoing Research

DU Faculty engage in cutting edge research addressing issues of access, equity, immigration, and education. To learn more about ongoing research being conducted at DU, please visit faculty pages below:

- Dr. Deborah Ortega, Full Professor in the Graduate School of Social Work, <http://portfolio.du.edu/dortega4>
- Dr. Lisa Martinez's, Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology, <http://www.du.edu/ahss/sociology/facultystaff/martinez.html>
- Dr. Maria Salazar, Associate Professor in Curriculum and Instruction and Teacher Education, <http://portfolio.du.edu/MSALAZAR>
- Dr. Tom Romero, Associate Professor in Sturm College of Law, <http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/profile/tom-romero>
- José (Beto) Juárez Jr., Professor in Sturm College of Law, <http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/profile/beto-juarez>
- César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández, Assistant Professor in Sturm College of Law <http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/profile/cesar-garcia-hernandez>
- Christopher Lasch, Associate Professor in Sturm College of Law, <http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/profile/christopher-lasch>
- Dr. Rebecca Galemba, Assistant Professor in Korbel School of International Studies, <http://portfolio.du.edu/RebeccaGalemba/page/60812>
- Dr. Aaron Schneider, Associate Professor in Korbel School of International Studies, <http://www.du.edu/korbel/faculty/schneider.html>
- Dr. Ryan Evely Gildersleeve, Associate Professor of Higher Education, <https://portfolio.du.edu/rgilder2>
- Dr. Judy Marquez Kiyama, Assistant Professor of Higher Education, <https://portfolio.du.edu/Judy.Kiyama>

For more information on research:

Darsella Vigil

Darsella.vigil@du.edu

Other ongoing Discussions and Identified Needs:

Development of an Office of Immigrant Protection and Community Support AND an Immigration Law Clinic at the Sturm College of Law

The proposed University of Denver's Office of Immigrant Protection and Community Support (IPCS) would provide social support to noncitizen members of the DU community, and connect community members to essential resources both on campus and off, in line with DU's Principles of Protection and Support and the University's IMPACT 2025 strategic plan.

In addition, a proposed Immigration Law Clinic added to the already existing clinical program at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law would provide legal assistance to the immigrants in potential areas such as deportation defense, asylum petitions, or counsel in relation to emerging Federal executive orders and policy.

The IPCS and the Immigration Law Clinic would work both collaboratively and independently to:

- Develop and drive a plan to educate DU community members about potential implications that the executive actions and federal policy may have on their immigration status;
- Foster an engagement plan that builds and maintain relationships with DU students, DU staff, Colorado grassroots civic engagement and community-based organizations, elected officials, and decision makers;
- Work alongside Colorado grassroots civic engagement and community-based organizations to create a standardized bilingual Know Your Rights curriculum and update as needed;
- Convene and support organizations seeking to promote local, state, and federal policies consistent with DU's Principles of Protection and Support; and
- Manage a system to support follow through and accountability, including development of goals and metrics to measure the program's progress.

For more information on the development of an Office of Immigrant Protection and Community Support and or an Immigration Law Clinic:

Professor Chris Lasch

Constitutional Campus Working Group of the Sturm College of Law's Rocky Mountain Collective on Race, Place, and Law

Associate Professor

303-871-6368

clasch@law.du.edu

<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/rocky-mountain-collective-on-race-place/constitution-campus-clearinghouse>



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CAMPUS LIFE &
INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

