

A close-up, partial view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, is positioned on the left side of the page. The stars are white on a blue field, and the stripes are red and white.

New Help for Immigrants from President Obama.

On November 20, 2014, President Obama announced 2 new immigration programs that will help many people. The new programs (also called “administrative relief”) will help some immigrants who do not have a green card or a visa by letting them stay in the United States without fear of deportation and work legally for 3 years. Many immigrants will also be able to travel outside of the country more easily.

Here are the **top 10 facts** you need to know about these new programs:

- 1. The 2 new programs do not start for a few months.** You cannot apply for them yet. Do not believe anyone who tells you that you can apply for the new programs or that they can place you on a priority list.
- 2. The 2 new programs will not help every immigrant.** There are special rules that limit who can get help from the new programs. When the programs begin, you will have to prove who you are, how long you have been in the country, and other information about yourself.
- 3. The first program helps immigrants who came to the United States before their 16th birthday and arrived here on or before January 1, 2010.** This program is called DACA, which stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. DACA allows immigrants to stay in the country and work legally for 3 years. You can also apply to travel outside of the US.
- 4. The second program helps parents who arrived in the United States on or before January 1, 2010 and whose children are U.S. Citizens or Legal Permanent Residents.** This program is called DAPA, which stands for Deferred Action for Parental Accountability. DAPA allows immigrant parents to stay in the country and work legally for 3 years. You can also apply to travel outside of the US.
- 5. Even if you do not qualify for these 2 programs, you may be able to apply for another new immigration program if you have family members who are U.S. citizens or green card holders.** See the information at the bottom of this flyer to find a free immigration lawyer who can tell you which immigration programs you can apply for.
- 6. The U.S. Government will not deport immigrants who get help from these programs for 3 years.** During these 3 years, immigrants can work legally and can apply for special permission so they can travel to and from the U.S. to visit their home countries or other places. After 3 years, you can apply to renew.
- 7. The new programs will not help immigrants get a green card or become a U.S. citizen.** The rules for getting a green card or becoming a U.S. citizen have not changed.

8. The new programs will not help immigrants get food stamps, student financial aid or other federal benefits. The rules for federal benefit programs have not changed.

9. Even though the new programs do not begin for a few months, you can start preparing your documents now. Before you do anything, talk with a trusted immigration lawyer to find out if you are eligible to apply for these new programs. If you are eligible, start gathering documents that prove you have lived in the United States for the past 5 years and that you were here on November 20, 2014. These can be birth certificates (especially if you need to prove you have a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident child), bank statements, school records, medical records, utility bills, government records or other documents that show your name and the date.

10. To get more information about these 2 new programs, other immigration issues and to find free legal help:

CALL 311 AND SAY

“I need help with Deferred Action”
(ask for an interpreter if you do not speak English)

Visit the New York City Office of Immigrant Affairs:

www.nyc.gov/deferredaction

Call the New York State Office for New Americans Hotline:

(212) 419-3737 in NYC or

(800) 566-7636 outside NYC

Remember, you cannot apply for these new programs yet. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will begin accepting applications in a few months.

DO NOT TRUST ANYONE WHO OFFERS TO HELP YOU SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR ANY OF THESE NEW PROGRAMS BEFORE THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

If you have ever been cheated out of money by someone promising to help with immigration issues, call the New York State New Americans Hotline.

NYC

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

**Office of
Immigrant Affairs**

Nisha Agarwal
Commissioner



Melissa Mark-Viverito
New York City Council Speaker

