

Mt. San Antonio College
Statement from the President William Scroggins
Support for DACA and Dream Students

September 13, 2017



As President of Mt. San Antonio College, I recommit our full support of our DACA and Dream students in light of the recent decision of President Trump to rescind the President Obama's Executive Order related to DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). Our DACA students have thoroughly proven themselves to be trustworthy and responsible college students, capable of contributing to the economic and social well-being of our country. As a college community, we pledge our support to uphold the privacy and safety rights of our DACA and Dream students. Furthermore, we will continue to ensure that our DACA and Dream students are fully supported through the provision of services, sharing of legal information, and the implementation of college procedures and practices that protect their rights to privacy and freedom from any forms of alienation, fear or discrimination.

In an August 2017 study conducted by Tom K. Wong of the University of California, San Diego, United We Dream (UWD), the National Immigration Law Center (NILC), and the Center for American Progress shows that DACA recipients make positive contributions to the American economy, which benefits the country overall. The study, which is the largest of its kind to date, shows that 97 percent of respondents are employed or enrolled in school; 72 percent are pursuing a bachelor's degree or higher; and 69 percent moved into a job with better pay after receiving DACA. Data also shows that respondents are twice as likely to start their own business compared to the general population.

As accepted by our Board of Trustees at their meeting on **December 14, 2016**, Mt. San Antonio College pledges to continue to maintain its full support of undocumented students by:

- Maintaining and expanding the Dream Center, including providing sufficient human and fiscal resources to provide a full range of support services
- Providing safe haven for Dream students on campus, including protected, secure and confidential places to receive counseling, legal advice, instructional support, support services, and places to study
- Providing assistance in applying to the college and in applying for financial aid through the California Dream Act
- Providing protection of students' privacy and ensuring that these rights are upheld across the campus
- Collaborating with community resources and agencies to provide legal assistance and medical assistance related to DACA, and legal concerns such as removal proceedings, California Dream Act, and AB 540
- Providing ongoing professional development to college faculty and staff to raise their awareness and develop skills and strategies to provide informed and culturally competent assistance and support
- Hosting ongoing conversations and open forums to enable students to express their concerns as well as to receive information, assistance, access and referral to services
- Organizing community-based forums and workshops for students, parents and community members to understand their rights, respond to questions and concerns and to receive assistance with specific applications and immigration-related concerns

Additionally, the College commits to:

- Not releasing any personally identifiable student information, including any data related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law
- Not divulging information related to student workers' immigration status
- Not cooperating with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation
- Not permitting the college Public Safety department to detain, question or arrest any individual solely on the basis of (suspected) undocumented immigration status nor to use resources to enforce immigration law and to volunteer immigration information
- Protecting student privacy through not passively sharing information in a way that could information could be revealed to third parties, without there being intent to disclose, such as social security numbers ("SSN"), or lack thereof, residency information, including residency in other countries, high school and elementary schools attended in other countries, and other information that may bear on the student's ability to obtain services, including in-state tuition
- Clarifying and modifying college policies to restrict employees from obtaining, divulging, and reporting information unless it is required and necessary to provide specific services to students such as financial aid
- Clarifying and modifying college policies and procedures regarding employees access to information that can be construed to make assumptions or conclusions regarding a student's immigration, residency, or other legal status
- Clarifying and modifying college policies and procedures regarding the limitation in the collection of, sharing and reporting of student information such as Social Security Numbers (SSN)
- Supporting legislative actions and legal issues that serve to address issues of concern related to federal immigration policies and procedures, including release of information, investigations, arrests, deportations, presence of ICE on campus, support for health care, access to legal services
- Protecting students' identities and personal information from governmental intrusion without authorization unless an approved legal request or subpoena is provided
- Protecting students from threats by requiring ICE officials to first meet with college authorities prior to arriving on campus in official capacities to investigate or for the purposes of detaining any individuals
- Refraining from creating an environment that may cause fear or concern to undocumented individuals by not including certain agencies, including ICE, in activities such as career fairs and discussions or debates
- Advocating for the application and enrollment of noncredit students without the requirements for students to have and submit Social Security Numbers
- Undertaking efforts to raise funds to assist Dream students with funds for books, school supplies, transportation, food, and other necessities
- Collaborating across the campus and the community to develop an educational manifesto outlining the economic, social and political advantages that immigrants contribute to the United States
- Working closely with federal officials to develop policies and procedures enabling undocumented immigrants to legalize their status and to access a path to citizenship