



**DREAM ACT UPDATE: OBAMA ADMINISTRATION & DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY ANNOUNCE DEFERRED ACTION FOR
CERTAIN UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS**

While Congress has yet to pass the DREAM Act benefiting young, undocumented students and young adults who were brought to the United States at an early age, on Friday, June 15th, the Obama Administration and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that the DHS will defer removal (deportation) proceedings against would-be DREAM Act candidates, undocumented students who meet certain requirements.

Eligibility Criteria

Pursuant to the Administration's announcement, undocumented students and young adults must meet the following requirements to qualify for deferred action:

1. Came to the United States under the age of sixteen;
2. Have continuously resided in the United States for a least five years preceding the date of this memorandum and are present in the United States on the date of this memorandum;
3. Are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a general education development certificate, or are honorably discharged veterans of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States;
4. Have not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor offense, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety;
5. Are not above the age of 30.

Time Frame

The policy shift announced today becomes effective immediately, though applicants must await publication of procedures for application.

Benefits

Eligible applicants may apply for employment authorization upon demonstration of economic necessity. Deferred action may be granted for a period of two years, which may be renewed upon continued qualification.

As always, FosterQuan will continue to monitor changes in federal policy impacting immigrants and eligibility for immigration benefits. For additional information concerning this announcement, contact your FosterQuan immigration attorney. Additional updates will be made available via our firm's website at www.fosterquan.com, and via future Immigration Update[®] bulletins as new details and application procedures are made available.