

1 [Providing Fee Waivers for Eligible DACA Applicants]

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3 **Resolution Urging the Mayor, San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Office of Civic**
4 **Engagement & Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA) to Provide Fee Waivers for Eligible San Francisco**
5 **DACA Applicants**

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7 WHEREAS, on June 15, 2012 the Obama administration via the Department of Homeland
8 Security announced the implementation of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which
9 began on August 15, 2012;¹ and

10 WHEREAS, on November 20, 2014, President Obama announced an Executive Action to
11 protect unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. from deportation, expanding DACA and introducing a new
12 program, Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA); and

13 WHEREAS, DACA is a program that allows for the discretionary determination to defer removal
14 action of an individual as an act of prosecutorial discretion in addition to providing potential eligibility
15 for employment authorization for youth as of June 15, 2012;² and

16 WHEREAS, the DACA program offers “deferred action” to undocumented youth who were
17 brought to the United States as children and who meet other specific requirements as indicated on the
18 U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website;³ and

19 WHEREAS, according to the Public Policy Institute of California, roughly 30,000 of San
20 Francisco’s 809,000 residents are undocumented immigrants,⁴ and over 5,000 of San Francisco’s
21 undocumented residents are youth ages 14-24;⁵ and

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23 ¹ US Department of Homeland Security. "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: Who Can Be Considered?" US
Department of Homeland Security. Last modified August 15, 2012. Accessed May 12, 2014.

24 <http://www.dhs.gov/blog/2012/08/15/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-who-can-be-considered>.

25 ² US Citizenship and Immigration Services. "Frequently Asked Questions." US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Last
modified January 18, 2013. Accessed May 12, 2014. [http://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-
childhood-arrivals-process/frequently-asked-questions](http://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-process/frequently-asked-questions).

³ Ibid

1 WHEREAS, undocumented youth have historically faced barriers in accessing employment,
2 scholarships, loans, state and federal services, and other opportunities; and

3 WHEREAS, the DACA program has been quite successful in providing employment and
4 financial opportunities; for example, approximately 61% of DACA recipients surveyed have obtained a
5 new job since receiving DACA, over 50% have opened their first bank account, and 38% have
6 obtained their first credit card;⁶ and

7 WHEREAS, in 2012 about 1.2 million immigrants were eligible for DACA, and only about
8 600,000 have signed up so far; and

9 WHEREAS, of 539,774 DACA eligible youth in California, only 157,182 (29.1%) have applied
10 for the program;⁷ and

11 WHEREAS, immigrants who entered the U.S. before January 1, 2010, and who have at least
12 one child who is a U.S. citizen or a green-card holder, are also protected under this executive action
13 and may be eligible for DAPA; and

14 WHEREAS, under the President's new plan, effective November 2014, DACA recipients must
15 also renew their statuses and work authorization every three years;⁸ and

16 WHEREAS, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services charges an application fee of \$465 to
17 apply and reapply, a \$380 fee for the I-765 Form and an additional \$85 in biometric service fees;⁹ and

19 ⁴ Begin, Brent. "Illegal immigrants leaving San Francisco for cheaper pastures." San Francisco Examiner. Last modified
20 July 21, 2011. Accessed April 13, 2014. <http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/illegal-immigrants-leaving-san-francisco-for-cheaper-pastures/Content?oid=2178492>.

21 ⁵ Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. "SF Summer Jobs Program Will Include Opportunities for Undocumented
22 Youth." Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth. Last modified May 28, 2013. Accessed April 13, 2014.
<http://colemanadvocates.org/blog/sf-summer-jobs-program-will-include-opportunities-for-undocumented-youth/>.

23 ⁶ Gonzales, Roberto G., and Veronica Terriquez. "How DACA is Impacting the Lives of Those Who are Now
24 DACAdmented." Immigration Policy Center. Accessed May 12, 2014. [http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/how-](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/how-daca-impacting-lives-those-who-are-now-dacamented)
[daca-impacting-lives-those-who-are-now-dacamented](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/how-daca-impacting-lives-those-who-are-now-dacamented).

25 ⁷ Center for American Progress. "Undocumented No More." Center for American Progress. Accessed May 12, 2014.
<http://www.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/DACAReportCC-2-1.pdf>.

⁸ Ibid

⁹ United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. "I-765, Application for Employment Authorization." United States
Citizenship and Immigration Services. Last modified January 18, 2013. Accessed May 12, 2014. <http://www.uscis.gov/i-765>

1 WHEREAS, the \$465 fee imposes a significant barrier to eligible applicants; for example,
2 according to Migration Policy Institute's one year DACA mark study, 35% of eligible DACA applicants
3 are under 100% of the Federal Poverty level, with 66% under 199% of the Federal Poverty level¹⁰; and

4 WHEREAS, 60.5% of all DACA applications received from August 2012 to July 2013 were in
5 the months of August, September, October, and November (the first four months of the program) and
6 were up for re-application this year,¹¹ increasing the need for financial aid at the beginning of the 2014-
7 2015 fiscal year; and

8 WHEREAS, San Francisco is consistently ranked as one of the most expensive cities in the
9 United States, currently second only to New York City;¹² and

10 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Chapter 12H.1 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the City and
11 County of San Francisco is a City and County of Refuge or Sanctuary City,¹³ which prohibits City
12 employees from helping Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with immigration investigations
13 or arrests unless such help is required by federal or state law or a warrant;¹⁴ and

14 WHEREAS, As per Charter SEC. 4.124, the Youth Commission is committed to identifying and
15 proposing solutions to meet the "unmet needs" of the youth population in San Francisco, and reducing
16 financial barriers for undocumented youth applying for DACA is an unmet need; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission commends Mayor Edwin Lee for
18 taking timely action authorizing \$500,000 in new funding for the Office of Civic Engagement and
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21 ¹⁰ Migration Policy Institute. "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals at the One-Year Mark." Migration Policy Institute.
22 Accessed May 12, 2014. <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/DACA2013-FINAL.pdf>.

23 ¹¹ United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals." United States Citizenship
24 and Immigration Services. Accessed November 24, 2014.
25 <http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/daca-13-8-15.pdf>.

¹² Expatistan. "Expatistan's Cost of Living World Map." Expatistan. Accessed May 12, 2014.
<http://www.expatisan.com/cost-of-living/index>.

¹³ San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter §12H.1

¹⁴ City & County of San Francisco. "Sanctuary Ordinance." City & County of San Francisco. Accessed April 14, 2014.
<http://sfgsa.org/index.aspx?page=1067>

1 Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA) following President Barack Obama’s Executive Action to provide citywide
2 DACA and DAPA outreach, education, fraud prevention and language assistance; and be it further
3 RESOLVED, that San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and San Francisco Board
4 of Supervisors to provide additional funding and offer fee waivers to San Francisco’s DACA applicants
5 who face barriers paying any applicable application fee(s) in applying for the DACA program,
6 especially youth ages 15-24 who are low-income; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission supports Mayor Lee’s commitment to
8 fund the DreamSF Initiative through 2019, and urges the Mayor and the San Francisco Board of
9 Supervisors to expand the number of slots on OCEIA’s DreamSF Fellowship program which offers
10 DACA-approved youth the opportunity to serve the city’s immigrant communities through professional
11 experience and training; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and San Francisco
13 Board of Supervisors to work collaboratively with the Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs
14 (OCEIA) and San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) to outreach to DACA-eligible youth both
15 encouraging them to (re)apply and notifying them of potential local application fee waiver(s).

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20 Michel Li, 2014-2015 Youth Commission Chair

21 Adopted by Youth Commission December 15, 2014
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