



The University of Vermont

*Office of the President*

September 1, 2017

To: UVM Community

From: Tom Sullivan, President

RE: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Update

News reports suggest that changes to the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy could be made as early as today, or by Tuesday.

I want to take this opportunity to reiterate some of the key points I made in previous communications on this subject, and to reassure our community that we will not be changing our practice of protecting undocumented students to the maximum extent that federal law permits:

- Consistent with federal law, UVM does not require documentation regarding the immigration status of individuals who are not sponsored by the university for study or employment. Unless the federal law is changed we will not be altering our practice as a result of any changes to DACA policy.
- Federal law also protects student privacy. We take this obligation very seriously and we will not be disclosing any student's private information in the absence of a formal legal process, such as a subpoena.
- We will continue to stand ready to assist in locating counsel for individuals requiring assistance based on immigrant status so that they may assert their full legal defenses.
- UVM Police, like all other state-authorized law enforcement agents, have no responsibility for enforcing immigration laws. UVM Police do not inquire about immigration status, do not detain individuals based solely on immigration status, do not arrest individuals based on immigration status, and do not disclose information regarding immigration status unless compelled by law to do so.

To the extent we may have any DACA students as members of our educational community, I want them to know that we understand the anxiety and special set of challenges they and their families may face. We stand united in our efforts to ensure their welfare and academic success at UVM.

I encourage you to read the full text of my December 6 memorandum regarding DACA for more detailed information [here](#).