



UPSTATE
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION · HEALTHCARE · RESEARCH

Office of the President

Sept. 5, 2017

To the Upstate Community:

It was announced today by U.S. Attorney General Jeffrey Sessions that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA, has been rescinded. The program would be eliminated after a six-month delay.

This action could not be more antithetical to key tenets of our university's mission, which is built on the foundations of hope and compassion.

This past January, in response to the developments related to immigration status and one's ability to remain in the United States, I reiterated my firm commitment to ensure an inclusive environment for all of our students, other trainees, faculty and staff at Upstate.

Upstate will not waiver in this commitment. We remain exceptionally supportive of our students who are directly affected by this measure and to provide them all the support necessary during these challenging times.

To that end, I have asked the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs to be our center for information on how this decision will impact any students or other individuals, as well as facilitating any counseling, educational guidance or legal questions that might pertain to this action. For information related to this matter, you can contact Julie White, PhD, dean of student affairs, at whitejul@upstate.edu

I add my voice to the growing chorus of those in higher education who are opposed to this decision and who will work together with our federal representatives over the next six months to reverse today's decision and craft bi-partisan legislation that enables these individuals the ability to remain safely in the United States.

Sincerely,

Danielle Laraque-Arena, MD, FAAP
President, Upstate Medical University