This challenging moment calls for clear information, useful tools, strong solidarity, and powerful organizing. The future is uncertain, but the Trump administration is shaping up to be the most anti-immigrant in recent history. Yet California – where one in every four people is an immigrant – is in a unique position to fight back.

We have compiled the information below to address concerns, confusion, and fear in immigrant communities. We are committed to working alongside our communities and grassroots partners to organize, fight for and defend the programs and protections that have helped lead immigrant inclusion in California.

**WHAT WE KNOW TODAY**

- There are steps immigrants can take now to prepare and to protect themselves. For example, families can go to a reputable, accredited attorney to review their immigration options and check if any of their family members have an opportunity to adjust their status or apply for citizenship.
  
  ⇒ To find help near you, visit: [www.weownthedream.org/legalhelp/](http://www.weownthedream.org/legalhelp/)

- Immigrants should only go to trusted, qualified legal service providers, and ask for translation assistance if they need it.

- Undocumented immigrants in California can still apply for a driver’s license under AB 60. Before the election, the Drive California Coalition explained that this risk depends on your individual situation and needs.
  
  - For example, if you fall under the Priority Enforcement Program categories (certain convictions, past deportations, etc), you should exercise caution and consult an attorney before applying.
  
  - Following the election, we expect the new administration to go above and beyond the current deportation program. As such, if you have had prior arrests or contact with law enforcement or immigration, you should consult an immigration attorney before applying for an AB 60 license.
  
  ⇒ To learn more, see [AB 60 Driver’s License After the Election: Know Your Rights](https://driveca.org/ab60-driver%E2%80%99s-license-after-the-election-know-your-rights) (Drive CA).

- Currently, immigrants can still enroll in health programs they are eligible for, including restricted-scope Medi-Cal, full-scope Medi-Cal for undocumented children and lawfully present immigrants (including DACA recipients), county safety-net programs, and Covered California for those who are eligible.
  
  ⇒ For more about confidentiality of personal information, see [Holding The Line: Fighting For Immigrant Health Justice After The Election](https://www.caimmigrant.org/holding-the-line-fighting-for-immigrant-health-justice-after-the-election) (CIPC)

- CIPC is working with state and national partners to give immigrant communities the information needed to protect their families. See additional links at the end of this document.
DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)

Donald Trump promised during his campaign to end the DACA program, and given his extremist and racist staff and cabinet picks, he may very well do so. At the same time, many community groups are preparing to apply political pressure to defend the program and oppose all deportations.

Many legal advocacy groups have issued detailed question-and-answer guides, shared below. Most organizations recommend that people not submit initial DACA applications at this time, but that folks should submit renewal applications right away, regardless of expiration date. DACA recipients with new or pending criminal charges should consult with an immigration attorney before submitting a renewal application.

RESOURCES

- Immigrant Legal Resource Center – [DACA Renewals and California Driver’s Licenses](#)
- National Immigration Law Center – [New Questions And Answers About DACA Now That Trump Is President-Elect](#)
- Educators for Fair Consideration – [What We Know Now](#)

Note: The cost of filing fees can be offset through funding available through Mission Asset Fund, the Mexican Consulate, some DACA collaboratives (See the One California grantees in the Resources section [Eng/Span](#)) and other programs. For information on loans and scholarships to offset DACA fees visit: [www.mydocumentedlife.org](http://www.mydocumentedlife.org) and click on the DACA tab.

DEPORTATION & KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- Starting January 1, a new California law, the TRUTH Act, will protect immigrants’ rights in local jails. Learn more at: [www.catruthact.org](http://www.catruthact.org)
- Make sure to know your rights when in contact with local law enforcement or immigration enforcement agencies (ICE).
  - When talking to or in front of law enforcement, anything you say can and will be used against you—don’t talk about your immigration status, citizenship, when or how you came to the US, or where you’re from.

RESOURCES

- Immigrant Legal Resource Center – [Know Your Rights & Community Resources](#)
- National Immigration Law Center – [Information about Raids and How Immigrants Can Assert their Constitutional Rights](#)
- Truth Act: Know Your Rights – [Palm Card](#)
HEALTH AND PUBLIC BENEFITS

There is a lot at stake for California, a leader in implementing the Affordable Care Act (ACA). In fact, California has 1.2M Californians who renewed their coverage in Covered CA health plan and 139,000 newly enrolled as of December 2016. Additionally, nearly 14M Californians are in Medi-Cal.

- During his campaign Trump vowed to repeal and replace the ACA. However, any changes to the ACA, Covered California, or Medi-Cal, will take time. At the moment, eligible immigrants can still review their health care options and apply for/renew coverage available in the state exchange.

California has championed inclusive health access for immigrant communities by expanding comprehensive Medi-Cal for income-eligible undocumented children and DACA recipients. In addition, some counties have created local safety-net programs that provide limited care to undocumented adults.

- Immigrant families should review their health coverage options, including signing up for Covered California, Medi-Cal, or their county safety-net program, for those who are eligible.

- If immigrants individuals and families have health care, we strongly recommend that they utilize services, set up appointments for yearly check-ups, stay up to date with vaccinations and medical visits, and seek a medical professional when needed.

- In California, DACA recipients who meet the income requirement are eligible for state-funded full-scope Medi-Cal because they are considered PRUCOL.
  - The current understanding is that if DACA recipients lose their ‘deferred action’ status they may continue to be eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal under the current definition of PRUCOL.

- There are existing federal and state laws that keep information from Medi-Cal and Covered CA applications private, confidential, and strictly for eligibility purposes.
  - Currently, information shared monthly by state and federal agencies is to determine eligibility and not to be used for enforcement purposes. If this changes with the incoming administration, advocates will fight back to stop any effort to use this personal information for enforcement purposes.

RESOURCES

- Western Center on Law and Poverty – What is at Stake for Medi-Cal under a Trump Presidency?
- Health Access CA – Our Health Care At Risk: Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act
- National Immigration Law Center – Is It Safe to Apply for Health Insurance Or Seek Health Care?
- California Pan-Ethnic Health Network – Efforts to Repeal the Affordable Care Act Will Hurt Low-Income and Communities of Color
- County Welfare Director’s Association – County Contact List for Medi-cal Assistance for Immigrant Californians
Many of these points have been adapted and shared from resources from various state and national partners. See the organizations and links below for additional resources and technical information.

- **California Pan-Ethnic Health Network**: [www.cpehn.org](http://www.cpehn.org)
- **Educators for Fair Consideration**: [www.e4fc.org](http://www.e4fc.org)
- **Health Access CA**: [www.health-access.org](http://www.health-access.org)
- **Immigrant Legal Resource Center**: [www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org)
- **National Immigration Law Center**: [www.nilc.org](http://www.nilc.org)
- **Ready CA**: [www.ready-california.org](http://www.ready-california.org)
- **Western Center on Law and Poverty**: [www.wclp.org](http://www.wclp.org)

**OTHER RESOURCES**

- **Know Your Rights – Immigrant Legal Resource Center** – [Know Your Rights and What Immigrant Families Should Do Now](http://www.ilrc.org)
- **Educators for Fair Consideration** – [Undocumented? You’re Not Alone. We’re In This Together](http://www.e4fc.org)
- **Know Your Rights - National Immigration Law Center** – [Know Your Rights: Everyone Has Basic Rights, No Matter Who Is President](http://www.nilc.org)

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**CITATIONS**


3. Permanently Residing under the Color of Law is an eligibility category that is used by government benefit programs in California such as Medi-Cal.


5. 42 USC §1411(g). CA Welfare & Institutions Code §15925(b)(G)