Purpose

Following the rescinding of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in September 2017, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) convened a group of community leaders, higher education advocates, state agency partners, school personnel, and students to create a pathway of information on this vital issue. The DACAmented/Undocumented Collaborative serves to assist, advise, and engage in dialogue concerning ODE's work with and for Oregon's undocumented students.

Who are Oregon's DACAmented/Undocumented students?

As much of the Collaborative's work centers on undocumented students, it is imperative that district and school personnel recognize the impact the rescinding of DACA and the overall misinformation about undocumented students has on both the affected student group and Oregon students as a whole. The immigrant community in Oregon is diverse, with approximately 10,000 students in Oregon being DACA recipients. These students' families are from several countries of origin from all regions of the world, including Latin America, Asia, Europe and Africa. School personnel serving all students should provide access to all information and resources available that provide safety and opportunities for a healthy life, regardless of status. The infographic to the right provides the numbers on Oregon's immigrant population. More research is below.

American Immigration Council: Immigration in Oregon

Profiles: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Recipients

Charting America's Dreamers

Who and What is this Toolkit For?

The toolkit serves as a resource and support document for district and school personnel, and informs best and safe practices for students on and served by school campuses in Oregon. It serves as a proactive measure for district and school culture shift and support concerning practices, resources, and factual information about and for Oregon's students.



Why These Priorities?

ODE's DACAmented/ Undocumented Collaborative addresses the concerns from Oregon's communities. These priorities are guidance for district and school personnel serving Oregon's students:

- Supporting Mixed-Status Families
- Civil Rights Protections
- Oregon's Sanctuary Law
- Access to Higher Education

What Immigration
Means to Oregon
Infographic

Civil Rights Protections

All students attending Oregon schools are protected by civil rights law. This means the right to be free of harassment and discrimination, and must be upheld by district and school personnel. Discriminatory harassment may be a violation of civil rights law. Please refer to **ODE's Guidance on Discriminatory Harassment**.

Considerations for Policy and Practices

- What is your district's policy on discriminatory harassment?
- Where is it located, and in what language(s) is it available?
- How do district and school personnel, as well as students and families, access it?
- What information does your district or school need concerning this priority?
- How will district and school personnel access the training and professional learning necessary?

Best Practices to address this priority

- Speech becomes non-protected the moment there is disruption in learning:
 - o Threat (i.e., harassment; intention to harm)
 - Hate speech (speech directed at and targeting an individual based on specific characteristics)
- All Oregon students are entitled to equal access to a public elementary and secondary education regardless of their actual or perceived race, color, national origin, citizenship, immigrant status, or the status of their parents/guardians.
 - Examples of acceptable practices while enrolling students in the school/district can be found in the attachments.

Resources Document Rationale

The <u>U.S. Department of Education's</u> Office of Civil Rights (OCR) defines Title VI as a federal law that prohibits any entity that receives federal financial assistance (such as grants or student loans) from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Unlawful discrimination refers to unfair or unequal treatment of an individual (or group) based on certain characteristics. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin includes discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ethnicity, or ancestry. This includes:

- discrimination based on the country, world region, or place where a person or his or her ancestors come from
- a person's limited English proficiency or English learner status
- a person's actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics, including membership in a religion that may be perceived to exhibit such characteristics (such as Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and Sikh individuals).