



Potential Questions for Waubonsee Community College Students Regarding DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)

Although DACA remains in place for now, we understand the uncertainty and stress that our DACA students are facing. The information below is offered in the spirit of supporting our students during uncertain times and offering guidance for some of “what if?” scenarios that have been raised.

Student Privacy as related to ICE and other organizations

Waubonsee Community College (WCC) is committed to the success of all our students. As such, we are committed to protecting student privacy to the fullest extent of the law. Students are afforded protections under both FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Family Act) and FOIA (Freedom of Information Act). Specifically, the college cannot and will not release non-directory information with student information unless we are required to do so by a court subpoena. We send notification to the student before responding to a court subpoena unless the subpoena tells us not to notify the student.

Scholarships

1. Does WCC provide scholarships specifically for undocumented students?
WCC does not have scholarships specifically for undocumented students; however, we do have a number of scholarships that are not tied to immigration status. *Undocumented and DACA students are encouraged to apply for any scholarship that does not require a specific citizenship/resident status.*
2. If a student has a two year scholarship and is deported, could the second year of the scholarship be honored at a later time? *We would honor the second year of the scholarship whenever possible, depending on the criteria/guidelines of the scholarship in question.*

Attendance

1. In the event that a student is deported, would they be able to finish their current coursework remotely?
2. What if a student needs to leave the United States for a few weeks to revalidate status? Is there flexibility?

Answer to both Attendance questions: Yes, the college would try to work with the student to ensure as much support and flexibility as possible depending on their individual circumstances. This would also be dependent on factors such as curriculum and program requirements (for example: Nursing clinicals may not be completed remotely).

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Tuition and Book Refunds

1. Would WCC refund tuition dollars if a student had to withdraw from courses due to immigration status? *If the student chooses to drop the class rather than stay enrolled and complete it remotely (or if the remote option is not possible), the college would evaluate requests for tuition refunds through the Student Account appeal process.*
2. Would WCC refund tuition dollars if a student were negatively impacted by a family member who loses status? *Same answer as (1).*
3. If a student has a balance at WCC and is deported would the balance be waived? *If the student chooses to remain enrolled in the class (versus withdrawing and submitting a Student Account appeal form), they would be responsible for the remaining balance.*
4. Could students received a refund on their textbooks due to a loss in immigration status? *The college would evaluate requests for textbook cost refunds through the Student Account appeal process.*

Grading

1. Would a student automatically receive a “W” grade if students stopped attending classes due to change in status? *Students may be withdrawn for non-attendance in courses, for which a “W” grade is recorded on the transcript. However, “W” grades are not automatically issued by instructors. Students are able to withdraw from courses until the established deadline. After that, students may contact their instructor(s) to request a “W” grade.*
2. Would a student have an option to receive an “I” grade if they plan to return to WCC? *An Incomplete grade (“I” grade) may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor if illness or other circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term. Students have through the last day of following semester (not including Summer) to complete the course, unless the instructor notes an earlier completion date. Special exceptions may be presented to the Vice President of Educational Affairs for consideration. What would happen if the student planned to return but then couldn’t? *The student can contact the college and the “I” grade will be changed to a “W.”**

Resources

What are the resources do students have to address their questions/concerns regarding DACA? *Visit www.waubonsee.edu/resources for information and visit the Counseling, Advising & Transfer Center (www.waubonsee.edu/counseling) for support with educational planning and stress management.*

Questions / Contact

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