



Supports for Immigrant and/or Undocumented Students and Staff in the Boston Public Schools

Diana Iglesias

Media and Technology Innovation Specialist Office of English Language Learners

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Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is a two-year, renewable program through United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) that grants eligible undocumented youth a temporary work permit, social security number, and protection from deportation. In Massachusetts, those who receive DACA can also apply for a state driver's license.

DACA Eligibility Requirements:

- + entered the United States before their 16th birthday
- + continually resided in the United States since June 15, 2007
- + currently in school, graduated from high school, obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the US Armed Forces
- + have not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor offense, multiple misdemeanor offenses, or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety
- + under the age of 31 on June 15, 2012
- + at least 15 years or older, unless you are currently in removal proceedings or have a final removal or voluntary departure order
- + out of status on June 15, 2012



Data and Analysis: Migration Policy Institute (MPI)

Read Full Report Here

DACA AT THE TWO-YEAR MARK

A National and State Profile of Youth Eligible and Applying for Deferred Action

"Mexico was the most common country of origin for potentially eligible youth nationally and in 22 of the top 25 states. In Maryland and Virginia, however, youth from El Salvador comprised the largest shares of the DACA population, and in Massachusetts the most common country of origin was Brazil. The *high prevalence of Brazilian youth in Massachusetts* is unique, and has implications for the types of *language assistance and outreach needed in largely Portuguese-speaking communities.*" (page 21)



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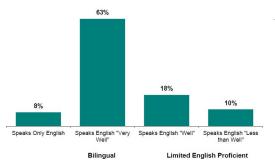
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Migration Policy Institute (MPI): English Proficiency of Immediately Eligible DACA Youth, 2012







MPI found *most* (71%) of the youth *immediately eligible* for DACA were identified as *English proficient*.

"Those who were *ineligible due to education* were likely to be older and *had lower English proficiency*. They were also more likely to be employed and to struggle financially compared to their immediately eligible peers. More specifically:

More than nine in ten were from Mexico and Central America. While youth from Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras accounted for approximately three-quarters of the immediately DACA-eligible population, these four countries accounted for nearly all—94 percent—of the youth who did not meet DACA's educational criteria." (page 18)

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Schools with Potentially DACA Eligible Youth

If we pivot the active student enrollment (sourced from the Aspen Student Information System) with students' country of birth, and sort the data based on the top 10 countries with accepted requests for DACA as reported by US Citizenship and Immigration Services, we can see the schools where there are the highest numbers students of Central American and Brazilian origin.

(USCIS DACA Approvals Rank)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#7
	Mexico	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Brazil
East Boston High School	6	364	34	33	8
Mario Umana Academy	1	96	7	4	3
McKay K-8 School	1	43	5	3	0
Timilty Middle School	0	23	9	2	1
Brighton High School	0	22	30	25	18

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United We Dream Institutional Toolkit: Commitments

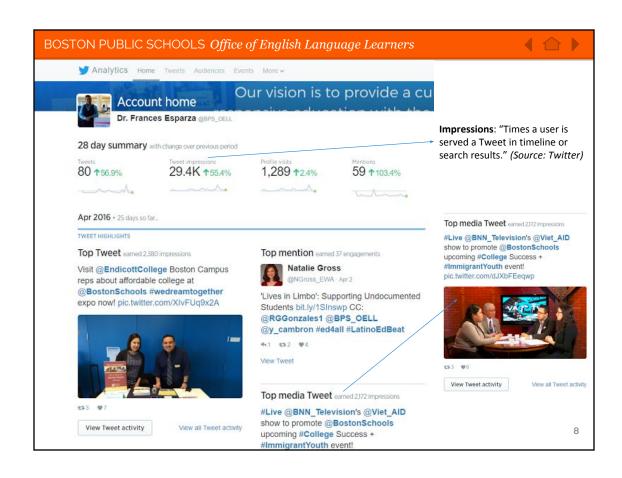
OELL accomplished commitments across three phases outlined by UWD's DREAM Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP):

- Emerging Allies: Raising Awareness
 - Commitment #4: Compile services & resources on your school's website.
 - <u>Commitment #5</u>: Create an undocumented student resource guide or brochure.
- Campus Support Services: Building Commitment
 - Commitment #14: Host a free DACA or Executive Actions clinic.
- Institutional Champion: Systemic Policy Change
 - Commitment #21: Amend or create job positions that
 work with & support undocumented students stop Public Schools 6



http://bpsoell.wix.com/wedreamtogether

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Boston Teachers Union #UnafraidBPS Campaign



- Collaborated with the BTU on a social media campaign to raise awareness of undocumented students and families in the Boston Public Schools.
- We are also working with BTU's "BTU Immigrant Rights Group," alongside BPS teachers and staff.

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Brochure for Undocumented Students



The brochure summarizes student rights, the eligibility requirements for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) relief, and includes contact information for relevant CBOs and NGOs in the city.

Currently, the <u>brochure</u> is available for download on our website, bostonpublicschools.org/ell. We plan to distribute copies throughout the BPS Welcome Centers, as well as through the new Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement "Immigrant Information Corners" that are being rolled out in every Boston Public Library branch.

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BPS "We Dream Together" Event on April 21st



Resource expo for high school students, including:

- colleges and universities
- Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement
- Agencia ALPHA providing pro bono immigration screenings
- East Boston Savings Bank
- **Comcast Internet Essentials**
- Boston HERC, Future Ready MA, JVS Boston, Scholar Athletes

Outcomes:

- About **30 students and family** members attended the event.
- A few students from Revere High School attended, which suggests we could host an event in **East Boston** in partnership with other Districts.
- Two families were screened and may be eligible for **immigration relief**.
- Low turnout, but high level of engagement and awareness on Twitter.

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Undocumented Staff in the BPS



BPS TEACHING FELLOWSHIP

You're ready to do whatever it takes to help the city's students achieve. We equip you with the skills and know-how to help your students get there.

The BPS Teaching Fellowship is an accelerated program operated by Boston Public Schools (BPS) that prepares

Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to apply?

Not necessarily. The fellowship is open to U.S. citizens, legal residents, and those who hold a valid work permit.

> Aim to work more closely with the Office of Human Capital to clarify that potential staff who have DACA are eligible to work in BPS.

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Dr. Esparza on Center for American Progress Panel

Dr. Esparza
represented BPS on
the Center for
American Progress
panel "Harnessing
the Talent of DACA
and Unauthorized
Students at the K12 Level" in
Washington, D.C.



The panelists' discussion was broadcast live on a YouTube stream, and we were recognized by Education Daily for our commitment to hosting a college fair for undocumented and immigrant students.

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Considerations for Future Initiatives in BPS

- Expand the Undocumented in BPS Working Group with the Office of High School Support
- PD on **social-emotional wellness** of undocumented students
- Events in venues in **East Boston** and other neighborhoods
- Increase outreach to ethnic media outlets
- Collaborate with Chelsea and Revere Districts to host
- Webinars for LATF training on DACA and other forms of immigration relief
- Partnerships with CBOs for surround supports
- Partner with Immigrant Information Corners at Boston
 Public Library branches
- Schedule events in the Fall when students are entering the District and/or applying to college

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