



**Dr. David Viar**  
Superintendent/President

September 5, 2017

### **GCC Statement Regarding DACA**

Glendale Community College unequivocally reaffirms its support for all students in pursuit of their higher educational and career goals in response to this morning's announcement that the President of the United States is rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program. Following the President's action, the U.S. Attorney General directed the Office of Homeland Security to "wind down" the federal DACA program over the next six months with a nod to Congress to address the issue. Details regarding the shift in policy may be vague at this time, but the fear and apprehension the announcement creates are very real for many of our students, faculty and staff.

Let it be very clear, the DACA announcement changes nothing at Glendale Community College. GCC remains committed to serving "a diverse population of students by providing opportunities and support to achieve their educational and career goals." In March, GCC's Board of Trustees reaffirmed this core belief by passing a resolution ([Resolution NO. 24-2016-2017](#)) that recognized the continuing commitment of GCC's board, faculty, staff, and administration "to a safe learning environment for all, free from harassment and discrimination, and where freedom of speech and academic integrity are held in high regard."

These guiding principles are more than just words, they are the foundation of our core beliefs established to guide us in moments such as this. Again, nothing changes. We are steadfast in our commitment to our students and will continue to offer the following support and services:

- Provide workshops to inform students of their rights.
- Provide financial aid assistance and information for undocumented students.
- Provide a social and emotional support system through the student club, VOICES.

In addition, Glendale Community College will not deviate from established policies, procedures and practices affirmed in March's resolution, including the following:

- GCC is open to all students who meet minimum requirements for admission, regardless of immigration status.
- GCC will not release any personal identifiable student information related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law.
- The college police department will not detain, question, or arrest any individual solely on the basis of (suspected) undocumented immigration status. ([GCC College Police Immigration Policy](#))
- GCC will not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, nation of origin, race, gender, or sexual orientation.

Earlier today, dozens of GCC students, faculty, and staff rallied in Plaza Vaquero to show their support for all those potentially affected by any changes to DACA. The College Board and leadership are proud to see that our college remains a safe environment in which to share diverse ideas and opinions. Over the next few months, we will learn how today's announcement affects our community. In the meantime, we encourage all students to fulfill their potential by striving to achieve their educational and career goals without fear of reprisal.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Viar".