

Karol Mason President

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Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

There has been a lot of information in the news recently about President Trump's plans for the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program, which applies to young people who were brought to the United States as children (also known as Dreamers). I am sure that many of you have questions and concerns about what will happen. The uncertainty is at the front of my mind too, and I want to assure you that we are closely monitoring this situation.

I also want to reiterate what the Chancellor and former President Jeremy Travis have already said to our community: we are committed at John Jay to doing everything we can to support and protect our students, regardless of their immigration status. As we monitor this situation, I also want to provide you with information about steps that we take to protect information about our students as well as access to their records. Regardless of President Trump's decision regarding DACA, CUNY/John Jay will adhere to the following guidelines for protecting our students and their records:

Anyone seeking access to our campus or to our records in order to gain immigration information about or from our students must present a lawfully issued subpoena. In most instances this means a subpoena that a judge has signed.

All such requests for access or information must be referred to our Office of Legal Counsel. Marjorie Singer will review all such requests and, if necessary, will consult with CUNY's General Counsel before permitting access. Following such review, any official permitted access to our campus for immigration purposes must be accompanied by Public Safety throughout the visit.

Information regarding a student's citizenship and visa status has been designated as *restricted* in CUNYfirst.

Under FERPA, directory information is generally made public. However, the College Registrar's office will not provide directory information to anyone who requests such information in the absence of a subpoena. This more restrictive interpretation is supported by CUNY.

No one on campus should respond to questions regarding the immigration status of students. All such questions should be referred to the Office of Legal Counsel.

If you have questions or need any information, please do not hesitate to reach out for help to any of the numbers below. Our students are our number one priority. Thank you.

## **Phone numbers:**

Registrar: 212-663-7867 Public Safety: 212-237-8524

Office of Legal Counsel: 212-621-3712

For inquiries about personal immigration-related matters:

**Citizenship Now: 212-650-6620** 

**Legal Aid Attorney at the Wellness Center: 212-237-8111** 

