



## National Immigrant Justice Center

### Deferred Action for DREAMers *Is it necessary to see an attorney?*

Consult with a licensed attorney or an organization recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals ([www.usdoj.gov/eoir](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir)) when seeking an immigration benefit.

***In the United States, a notario publico/notary is NOT an attorney and is not authorized to practice law. Furthermore, filing an application when not eligible is likely to result in deportation.***

#### **You should definitely consult with an attorney or recognized organization if...**

- You have ever applied for an immigration benefit or been included in the application of a family member.
- You have been questioned by an immigration officer while entering or while inside the United States.
- You have been ordered to appear before an immigration judge.
- You have been deported or granted voluntary departure from the United States.
- You have been stopped or arrested by the police, even if the charges were ultimately dropped.
- You have had an order of protection against you.
- You have been convicted of a crime, even if that conviction has since been expunged.

#### **You should also consult with a lawyer if ...**

- Anyone in your immediate family is either a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- You or a family member have been a victim of domestic violence.
- You or a family member have been a victim of any other crime.
- You or a family member have been in the United States for more than 10 years.
- You or a family member have been harmed or fear being harmed in your home country.

#### **Other important information...**

- Any information that you provide to immigration authorities may be used against you in future applications or proceedings.
- Deferred action is temporary and may be revoked at any time.

**NIJC offers in person and telephonic consultations. Please call 312-660-1370 or email [immigrantlegaldefense@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:immigrantlegaldefense@heartlandalliance.org) for an appointment.**