2019-05-01

Undocumented Immigrants: The Economic Reality

Nikolla Papa

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UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS: THE ECONOMIC REALITY

Honors Thesis

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

In the Bertolon School of Business
at Salem State University

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Commonwealth Honors Program
Salem State University
2019
ABSTRACT

There is a common belief that there are approximately 11.3 million undocumented immigrants residing in the United States; however, a recent Yale study published in September of 2018 finds that estimates show the range of undocumented immigrants in this country to be between 16 million and 29.1 million, with 22.1 million as the mean\(^1\) (Fazel-Zarandi et al., 2018). This mean number is approximately twice that of the consensus of 11.3 million. Out of all ~44 million or so foreign nationals living in the United States\(^2\) (Zong et al., 2019) undocumented immigrants, in numbers, make up roughly 50% of the foreign population according to this new study. Undocumented immigration has been in the spotlight as one of America’s biggest problems for the past two decades, perhaps even longer.

With the newest finding revealing that there are almost twice the number of undocumented immigrants than previously thought, the problem becomes a little larger. When it comes to a solution, it would not be preposterous to assume that all Americans would agree that there needs to be a solution; however, what would be considered the right solution? The answer to this question seems to be rooted in one’s perception of undocumented immigrants’ place in the larger picture of America. Some would say that they are the frame—the support system—of American society, and others would say that they don’t even belong in the picture. Both sides of the debate hold merit, leading to difficulties in finding a compromise and permanent solution.

\(^1\) https://insights.som.yale.edu/insights/yale-study-finds-twice-as-many-undocumented-immigrants-as-previous-estimates
\(^2\) https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/frequently-requested-statistics-immigrants-and-immigration-united-states
Since undocumented immigrants make up such a large portion of the United States, it is important to understand the economic realities—the area in which the solution truly lies. The purpose of this thesis is to shed light on an area of undocumented immigration that is seldom understood to the level of which it should: the economics. By shedding light on the economics behind undocumented immigration we can begin to have an educated discussion on how to proceed. This thesis serves as a ‘piece of the pie’ that could potentially lead to permanent immigration reform. This thesis will focus specifically on two categories of undocumented immigrants: primarily DACA recipients, and their non-status-holding constituents, traditional undocumented immigrants.
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Section 1: Literature Review

There have been many renditions of literature published on undocumented immigrants by students, professors, and economists, alongside many brief articles and blurbs on the effects that undocumented immigrants have on the economy, but there haven’t been any notable theses that delve deep into this specific topic, and for good reason: it is difficult to study the effects of a population of people whom do not have paperwork or whom do not submit to national surveys. However, it is manageable to study the effects of DACA recipients on the economy for three reasons: there is an identified range of recipients living in the U.S., a large portion of these recipients are employed legally in the workforce, and these recipients have submitted paperwork to USCIS.

Martin Lim, a recent graduate of Yale University titled his thesis Estimating the Effect of Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals (DACA) on DREAMers. In his conclusion, Lim states that “DACA has moved DREAMers into work by increasing labor force participation and decreasing unemployment, although these effects differ by gender. DACA has also increased incomes, with the largest increases at the bottom of the income distribution.”\(^3\) (Lim, 2018) Lim goes on to state in his conclusion that, “as DACA continues to be debated in Congress and the courts and as the fate of DREAMers remains in limbo, it is therefore important to understand that the case for DACA is not just a moral but also an economic one.” (Lim, 2018).

\(^3\)https://economics.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/Undergraduate/Nominated%20Senior%20Essays/2017-18/MartinLim_Senior%20Essay.pdf
Section 2: Research Methodology

This thesis will be undergone as a research study, in which various information sources—such as articles, statements, quantitative and qualitative data, and interviews—are compiled together to draw a main conclusion. There is an abundance of information to be found on DACA (less so with undocumented immigrants); however, the value in this thesis comes from the pooling of the information found from these sources and analyzing it. Information will be gathered primarily from USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services), the DHS (Department of Homeland Security), as well as news outlets, well-known politicians, and other various researchers and research institutes. Personal interviews will be conducted with the President of Salem State University, John D. Keenan, and Kurt von Seekamm, an economics professor who teaches at Salem State University. This mix of sources should yield an effective analysis of the economic impact that DACA recipients and undocumented immigrants have on the U.S. economy, as well as multiple perceptions on both populations of people. This research does not cover all possible economic impacts and contributions, but rather the major points that should be at the forefront of conversation regarding a potential solution to undocumented immigration.

The main objective of this research is to answer the following two questions:

1. What impact would a DACA cancellation have on the U.S. economy?
2. What would happen if undocumented immigrants were to suddenly exit the labor force by means of deportation?
Section 3: What is DACA?

An abbreviation for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA is a program first put into executive action by former president Barrack Obama in June of 2012. It allows for certain people (typically children and minors) who came to the united states and who meet several guidelines the privilege of temporary legal status to remain in the United States without the fear of deportation (USCIS, 2012). This program allowed for young undocumented men and women who had been living in America’s shadows to take a step forward towards assimilation the United States. DACA provided a two-year relief period, as well as the rights to work legally and obtain a driver’s license— privileges that were previously unavailable and thought to be a pipe dream to these young men and women who viewed the United States as their one and only home. In August 2018, USCIS estimated there were 699,350 active DACA recipients residing in the United States (USCIS, 2018). Most DACA applicants are traditionally from Mexico.

![Where DACA Applicants Come From](image-url)

**Figure 1 – Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services**
In 2014, President Obama attempted to expand the DACA program, as well as establish a new program, Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA). The DAPA program would have allowed parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years. According to USCIS, the expansion of DACA included a change to the duration of the work authorization—from two years to three years. “In 2015, these two initiatives were blocked in a lawsuit by 26 states, a federal judge’s injunction that an appeals court upheld, and a 4-4 Supreme Court deadlock on the measures’ constitutionality in June 2016 that left the appeals court decision in place, effectively ending DAPA and the expanded DACA (Harper, O’Boyle, 2018).

In mentioning what DACA is and what it grants, it is important to note what it does not grant. DACA does not provide permanent resident status to approved applicants, nor does it provide a path to citizenship. Although it may appear so, DACA does not provide any lawful legal status to approved applicants, effectively barring them from applying to other forms of immigration status. And although DACA provides two years of deportation relief and work authorization, the Department of Homeland Security reserves the right to terminate a person’s deferred action at any time and for any reason they deem fit. DACA recipients who attempt to renew their work authorization after two years are not guaranteed a renewal of their status.

Section 4: DACA Application Guidelines

The ability to apply for DACA only applies to a certain group of people that meet select criteria. According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website, The guidelines are as follows:

1) Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2) Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3) Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4) Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5) Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012;
6) Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7) Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety

The list of criteria gets to be quite detailed and specific regarding who qualifies for DACA status. An article published by Center for American Progress states that “due to DACA’s strict eligibility standards, participants are motivated to complete high school, go to college, and/or serve in the military. Their ability to obtain work permits under DACA allows them to pursue educational opportunities and career choices suited to their talents and ambitions and to be significant economic contributors to their communities.” (Wong, 2017).
Filing for DACA status requires a significant commitment of time. According to USCIS, if an individual is applying for DACA status he or she will need to complete the following steps:

1. **Collect documents as evidence you meet the guidelines.** You will need to submit supporting documents with your request for DACA. You can submit legible copies of these documents unless the instructions specify you must submit an original document. Examples of documents to submit:

   **PROOF OF IDENTITY:**
   - Passport or national identity document from your country of origin
   - Birth certificate with photo identification
   - School or military ID with photo
   - Any U.S. government immigration or other document bearing your name and photo

   **PROOF YOU CAME TO THE U.S. BEFORE YOUR 16th BIRTHDAY:**
   - Passport with admission stamp
   - Form I-94/I-95/I-94W
   - School records from the U.S. schools you have attended
   - Any Immigration and Naturalization Service or DHS document stating your date of entry (Form I-862, Notice to Appear)
   - Travel records
   - Hospital or medical records
   - Employment records (pay stubs, W-2 Forms, etc.)
   - Official records from a religious entity confirming participation in a religious ceremony
   - Copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country
   - Birth certificates of children born in the U.S.
   - Dated bank transactions
   - Automobile license receipts or registration
   - Deeds, mortgages, rental agreement contracts
   - Tax receipts, insurance policies

   **PROOF OF IMMIGRATION STATUS:**
- Form I-94/I-95/I-94W with authorized stay expiration date
- Final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal issued as of June 15, 2012
- A charging document placing you into removal proceedings


- Rent receipts or utility bills
- Employment records (pay stubs, W-2 Forms, etc.)
- School records (letters, report cards, etc.)
- Military records (Form DD-214 or NGB Form 22)
- Official records from a religious entity confirming participation in a religious ceremony
- Copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country
- Passport entries
- Birth certificates of children born in the U.S.
- Dated bank transactions
- Automobile license receipts or registration
- Deeds, mortgages, rental agreement contracts
- Tax receipts, insurance policies

PROOF OF YOUR STUDENT STATUS AT THE TIME OF DACA REQUEST:

- Official records (transcripts, report cards, etc.) from the school that you are currently attending in the United States.
- U.S. high school diploma or certificate of completion
- U.S. GED certificate

PROOF YOU ARE AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN OF THE COAST GUARD OR ARMED FORCES OF THE U.S.:

- Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
- NGB Form 22, National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service
- Military personnel records
- Military health records

2. Complete the required two forms and worksheets and worksheet—forms I-821D, I-765, and I-765WS (Attached as appendix A, B, and C, respectively).

COMPLETING YOUR FORMS:
- You must file the most recent version of Form I-821D from our website. USCIS will reject older versions of the form if you submit them.
- Write your name, date of birth, and mailing address exactly the same way on each form.
- We prefer that you download the forms from our website, fill them out electronically, and then print your completed forms to mail.
- Make sure you are using the most current version of the forms. The correct, most current edition of every USCIS form is always available for free download on our website.
- If you complete the forms by hand, use black ink only. Do NOT use highlighters or red ink on your forms. These could make your materials unreadable when scanned.
- If you must make changes on a form, we recommend that you begin with a new form, rather than trying to white out information. This can lead to scanning errors.
- Ensure that you provide all required supporting documentation and evidence.
- Be sure to sign all of your forms.

FILING YOUR FORMS:

- USCIS will reject your request if you fail to submit Forms I-821D, I-765, I-765WS, and the correct fees.
- Organize and label your evidence by the DACA guideline that it meets.
- Be sure that you mail all pages of the forms.
- Mail the forms to correct USCIS Lockbox.
- You cannot e-file your DACA request.
- If you have questions, call the USCIS Contact Center at 1-800-375-5283; do NOT visit a USCIS field office.

3. Mail your forms to the appropriate USCIS Lockbox.

4. Visit an application support center (ASC) for biometric services.

   - After USCIS receives your complete request with fees, they will send you a notice scheduling you to visit an ASC to for biometric services. If you fail to attend your ASC appointment, USCIS may deny your request for DACA. Children under 14 in removal proceedings, with a final removal order, or with a voluntary departure order, and who are not in immigration detention, will appear at the ASC for photographs only.

5. Check the status of your request online.
- The 90-day period for reviewing Form I-765 filed together with Form I-821D begins if and when USCIS decides to defer action in your case.
- You can check the status of your case on Case Status Online or by logging into your USCIS online account.

An individual will not be considered for DACA if he or she has been convicted of:

- A felony offense
- A significant misdemeanor offense; or
- Three or more other misdemeanor offenses not occurring on the same date and not arising out of the same act, omission, or scheme of misconduct.

Or
- You are otherwise deemed to pose a threat to national security or public safety.

As stated by USCIS, the difference between “significant misdemeanor”, “non-significant misdemeanor”, and “felony” is as follows:

○ **Felony:** A felony is a federal, state or local criminal offense punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.

○ **Significant Misdemeanor:** A significant misdemeanor is a misdemeanor as defined by federal law (specifically, one for which the maximum term of imprisonment authorized is one year or less but greater than five days) and:

  1. Regardless of the sentence imposed, is an offense of domestic violence; sexual abuse or exploitation; burglary; unlawful possession or use of a firearm; drug distribution or trafficking; or, driving under the influence; or,
  2. If not an offense listed above, is one for which the individual was sentenced to time in custody of more than 90 days. The sentence must involve time to be served in custody, and therefore does not include a suspended sentence.

○ **Non-significant Misdemeanor:** A crime is considered a non-significant misdemeanor (maximum term of imprisonment is one year or less but greater than five days) if it:

  1. Is not an offense of domestic violence; sexual abuse or exploitation; burglary; unlawful possession or use of a firearm; drug distribution or trafficking; or, driving under the influence; and
  2. Is one for which the individual was sentenced to time in custody of 90 days or less.
According to USCIS, certain travel outside the United States may affect the continuous residence guideline. The following chart explains whether an individual’s travel will affect his or her continuous residence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel Dates</th>
<th>Type of Travel</th>
<th>Does it Affect Continuous Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On or after June 15, 2007, but before Aug. 15, 2012</td>
<td>brief</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>casual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>innocent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• For an extended time</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Because of an order of exclusion, deportation, or removal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• To participate in criminal activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Any</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Aug. 15, 2012, and before you have requested DACA</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Yes. You cannot apply for advance parole unless and until DHS has determined whether to defer action in your case and you cannot travel until you receive advance parole.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Aug. 15, 2012, and after you have requested DACA</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Yes. You cannot travel while your request is under review. You cannot apply for advance parole unless and until DHS has determined whether to defer action in your case. In addition, if you have previously been ordered deported and removed and you depart the United States without taking additional steps to address your removal proceedings, your departure will likely result in your being considered deported or removed, with potentially serious future immigration consequences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On or after Aug. 15, 2012, and receiving</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>It depends. If you travel after receiving advance parole, the travel will not interrupt your continuous residence. However, if you travel without receiving advance parole, the travel will interrupt your continuous residence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 5: President Trump’s Cancellation of DACA

The Justice Department announced on September 5th, 2017 that it was ending DACA, while simultaneously giving Congress a six-month window to possibly save the policy (Edelman, 2017). [President] Trump, in a lengthy statement issued after Sessions' remarks, said it was “in the best interests of our country” to “begin an orderly transition and wind-down of DACA, one that provides minimum disruption” (Edelman, 2017). But, is it really in the best interests of the United States to wind down the DACA program?

The late Senator John McCain, in a response to the Trump administration’s decision to rescind DACA, said: “I strongly believe that children who were illegally brought into this country through no fault of their own should not be forced to return to a country they do not know. The 800,000 innocent young people granted deferred action under DACA over the last several years are pursuing degrees, starting careers, and contributing to our communities in important ways. While I disagreed with President Obama's unilateral action on this issue, I believe that rescinding DACA at this time is an unacceptable reversal of the promises and opportunities that have been conferred to these individuals.”

According to the New York Times, "Democrats and some Republicans, business executives, college presidents and immigration activists condemned the repeal as a coldhearted and shortsighted effort that was unfair to the young immigrants and could harm the economy. At the time of this announcement, there were roughly 800,000 DACA recipients enrolled in the program (Barshay, 2017). A cancellation of DACA

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would mean that these then 800,000 recipients are suddenly taken out of the labor force, and no longer able to own property such as a house or even an automobile because of their lack of Social Security Number. “The economic impact of rescinding DACA will negatively affect individuals beyond recipients and their families, including employers who have hired DACA recipients, as well as communities where DACA recipients are active economic and social participants,” says U.S. Senator and Ranking Member, Martin Heinrich, as he wrote a short article that outlined the effects on the economy had the cancellation gone through (Heinreich, 2017). The repeal of DACA will place an extreme hardship and burden on U.S. businesses, on local communities, and on the American economy. According to analysis by the Center for American Progress, rescinding DACA would result in an estimated loss of $460.3 billion from the national GDP over the next decade (Svajlenka & Jawetz, 2017). Senator Heinrich goes on to state that, “President Trump’s decision to end DACA is an effort to please his conservative, anti-immigrant base. Scoring political points instead of providing policy solutions will only produce negative economic consequences for Americans across the country. Congress must find a solution that will protect Dreamers and the American economy from this damaging, inhumane action by President Trump (Heinrich, 2017). Similar to the article written by Senator Heinrich that is mentioned above, an article published by CNBC states that the estimated loss of DACA workers would reduce U.S. GDP by $433 billion over the next ten years, with California, Texas, and Illinois being impacted the most7.

Another article published on the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities website, titled *Ending DACA Program for Young Undocumented Immigrants Makes No Economic Sense*, states “The Administration’s decision to end DACA, and some of the statements surrounding that decision such as those of Attorney General Jeff Sessions, do not comport with the evidence on the economic and fiscal effects of immigration, such as that compiled in a recent National Academy of Sciences (NAS) consensus study report (Stone, 2017). The report finds that “immigration has an overall positive impact on long-run economic growth in the United States.” By increasing the size of the labor force, immigrants help offset the effects of an aging native-born population. In addition, high-skilled immigrants add to the nation’s stock of human capital, boosting productivity and growth. The opposing side to this statement is that these skilled immigrants take away jobs that could have gone to Native-born citizens, which is a topic that will be addressed in Section 7 of this thesis.
Section 6: Economic Impact of a DACA Cancellation

This section digs deep into the meat of the argument—what would happen to the economy if DACA were to suddenly disappear? What would happen to these DACA recipients? What would happen to the companies that these DACA recipients are employed by? All very good questions to ask. With mentions of DACA being considered unconstitutional, this becomes a very serious and pressing issue that needs to be addressed sooner rather than later.

Employment authorization: Without DACA, these 700,000 or so recipients will not be allowed to work legally. This means that their employers must go through recruiting cycles to fill their vacant position. According to the Society for Human Resource Management’s Human Capital Benchmarking report, filling a single vacant position can cost a company an average of $4,129, while the average time it takes to fill is 42 days. 89% of respondents to a 2018 survey of DACA recipients were employed in workplaces across the country. If we assume that 89% of 700,000 recipients would no longer be employed, that would leave 623,000 positions across the country to fill. With the average cost of replacing a new hire marked at $4,129, the grand total of replacing these DACA recipients would amount to ~$2.6 billion dollars, which doesn’t account for the loss in productivity when these corporation are short-staffed while filling these roles.

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8 https://www.heritage.org/courts/commentary/its-time-end-daca-its-unconstitutional-unless-approved-congress
This ~$2.6 billion could have instead been used to stimulate the economy and to create jobs instead of filling old ones.

Deportation costs: Deportation has been mentioned as a solution to the problem of undocumented immigration. Since these DACA recipients will no longer hold legal status should the program be cancelled, they will now be on grounds for deportation. There are four main costs associated with a deportation: the apprehension, the detention, the legal processing, and the transportation. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Fiscal Year 2016 report states that ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) spent $129.4 million on the apprehension and identification of roughly 175,000 immigration fugitives\(^\text{12}\), which boils down to $739 per undocumented immigrant.

According to an article published by CNN, detaining is considered as the most expensive part of the deportation process because it entails providing food, medical treatment, and shelter to those detained\(^\text{13}\). According to the DHS, it costs them an average of $5,633 to hold one detainee in a federal detention center, with the average stay being 31 days. In 2016, ICE spent an additional $345 million to accommodate the “surge in families with children crossing the U.S. southern border illegally”, according to the DHS\(^\text{14}\).

After detention, some undocumented immigrants can ask for a court hearing, which could ultimately grant them an adjustment in their immigration status or even asylum status. According to research reports from the Center of American Progress,


estimated costs for the government’s legal proceedings vary from roughly $1,200 to $1,500 per case, with the mean of $1,350 per legal proceeding.\textsuperscript{15}

ICE has stated that the average cost for transportation of each detainee back to their home country was an average of $1,978 in fiscal year 2016. If all these costs are added together, the total cost for one deportation amounts to $9,700 flat. If the cost of each deportation amounts to $9,700 and the plan was to deport the 700,000 immigrants who had once been holding DACA status, the total cost would be $6.8 billion dollars. Added to the $2.6 billion cost of replacing workers, the cost to replace and deport DACA recipients would amount to ~$9.4 billion.

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center estimated that deporting DACA-eligible individuals would reduce Social Security and Medicare tax revenue by $24.6 billion over a decade\textsuperscript{16}. According to the 2019 annual report of the Social Security Board of Trustees\textsuperscript{17}, the trust funds that disburse retirement, disability and other Social Security benefits will be depleted by 2035. After this estimated exhaustion date, Social Security will only be able to pay out what it earns in Social Security tax revenues. Deporting DACA-eligible recipients will hinder the amount that each and every eligible retired U.S. citizen brings home in Social Security benefits.

Another economic talking point should a DACA cancellation occur is higher education institutions—colleges and universities. Pomona College, in response to President Trump’s cancellation of DACA on September 5\textsuperscript{th}, 2017, released a statement of

\textsuperscript{16} "Trump’s Harsh Message to Immigrants Could Drag on Economy", Associated Press. 2017-09-06. ISSN 0362-4331.
\textsuperscript{17} https://www.ssa.gov/oact/TRSUM/index.html
support for DACA and undocumented immigrant students that goes on to state, “To our country’s leaders we say that DACA should be upheld, continued, and expanded. We are prepared to meet with you to present our case. This is both a moral imperative and a national necessity. America needs talent – and these students, who have been raised and educated in the United States, are already part of our national community. They represent what is best about America, and as scholars and leaders they are essential to the future.”

This statement went viral in a matter of days, and it ultimately received signatures from over 700 college and university presidents around the country, having been signed by Salem State’s own John D. Keenan. When asked about his thoughts on the topic in a personal interview, President John D. Keenan confided that, “and indeed, I believe very strongly that undocumented immigrants and DACA recipients are a positive contribution to our campus, community and the economy.”

The Migration Policy Institute released figures based on 2014 data, in which estimates show that there were roughly 241,000 DACA-eligible students enrolled in college. With the cost of tuition for higher education ranging from roughly $10,000 - $60,000, the repercussions of a DACA cancellation could lead to billions of dollars in lost revenue for these institutions year over year. DACA recipients typically rely on the income they earn from their part-time or full-time jobs to pay for tuition, as they are unable to receive financial aid or take out federal loans for higher education. If their income were to suddenly disappear, higher education may become unattainable to them.

19 https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/education-and-work-profiles-daca-population
Section 7: Undocumented Immigrants

As noted above, the visible effects of DACA recipients exiting from the workforce would create a visible dent in the state of the U.S. economy. However, it is tough to determine the effects that their entirely unlawful counterparts have on the economy, as concrete data is scarce. By definition, an undocumented immigrant is a foreign national who resides in the United States illegally, or without any documentation. They are typically the parents of DACA recipients.

Undocumented immigrants traditionally hold employment positions of jobs that often pay under-the-table wages because without a Social Security Number, undocumented immigrants are not legally allowed to hold employment status in the United States. Undocumented immigrants will not be found at the upper tiers of corporations that handle the economy; rather, they will be found at the bottom rungs of the economy in jobs that require physical labor—such as landscaping, farming, food services, home cleaning, and construction. Each of these occupations may not be attractive prospects to a recent college graduate, but they all play a vital role in society. “As U.S.-born workers become more educated, they will be less inclined to look for low-skill jobs requiring a high school education or less. Similarly, an immigration system that is skewed toward accepting immigrants with high levels of education and skills (a bachelor’s degree or greater) will turn away workers who could fill jobs that require less education and training, but who are, nevertheless, crucial.” (Kosten, 2018).
As we can see from Figure 3 above, undocumented immigrants make up a very large percentage of industry groups such as roofers, painters, carpet and floor installers, brick masons, and sewing machine operators. What would happen if the undocumented workers in these industries were to suddenly exit the labor force as an effect of deportation? Kurt von Seekamm, an economics professor at Salem State University says, “if the supply of workers goes down due to deportation and the demand is unchanged we would expect the price of hiring those workers to increase. In other words, wages for drywall installers and roofers should increase. This would cause the labor costs of the firms that hire those workers to increase and the price of the final product to increase (assuming their labor can’t be outsourced abroad).”

According to a report by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nearly 47% of farmworkers were undocumented in 2014\textsuperscript{20}. Undocumented laborers make up nearly half of the farming industry, which is a staggering amount. “A study commissioned by the

\textsuperscript{20} https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-labor/
dairy industry suggested that if federal labor and immigration policies reduced the number of foreign-born workers by 50 percent, more than 3,500 dairy farms would close, leading to a big drop in milk production and a spike in prices of about 30 percent. Total elimination of immigrant labor would increase milk prices by 90 percent. The U.S. fruit, vegetable and meat industries are similarly at risk, and without the help of unauthorized workers, production would drop and consumers would likely see higher prices.” (Dudley, 2019).

A 2016 Pew poll found that 76 percent believe undocumented immigrants are as honest and hard-working as U.S. citizens; 67 percent believed that undocumented immigrants are no more likely than U.S. citizens to commit crimes; while 71 percent said they mostly fill jobs that Americans aren’t willing to do. If these undocumented workers are filling the jobs that Americans aren’t willing to do, then who would fill them if these workers were to suddenly be deported?

![Figure 4 - Source: Pew Research Center](image-url)
Section 8: Conclusion

This thesis has examined the impact and contributions that DACA recipients and undocumented immigrants have on the economy as well as the effects that would occur should a DACA cancellation and wide-scale deportation happen, and found that DACA recipients and undocumented immigrants have a significantly positive impact on the economy. The guidelines for a DACA application in section 4 showcase that these applicants are vetted to very high standards by the federal government—standards that U.S. citizens do not have to adhere by. These DACA recipients contribute billions of dollars in value to the U.S. economy, and it would be a net negative to the United States in economical terms to remove the program and deport these recipients. Their counterparts, traditional undocumented immigrants, are a net positive to the United States in economical terms, as they fill crucial roles in society that most Americans do not want to do, and work as hard—if not harder—than most Americans. Deportation of undocumented immigrants would ultimately lead to higher prices on necessities such as dairy and produce, and even on services such as installation and construction. Should DACA recipients and undocumented immigrants be removed from U.S. society, the effects would not go unnoticed, and should be taken into account when discussing legislation for a potential solution.

Should the problem of undocumented immigration still be of concern in the near future, and if more concrete data becomes available on the undocumented population, this thesis will serve as a stepping stone for a future researcher.
Section 9: Bibliography


Section 10: Appendix

Appendix A
Form I-821D
(Starts on Next Page)
**Part 1. Information About You (For Initial and Renewal Requests)**

I am not in immigration detention and I have included Form I-1765, Application for Employment Authorization, and Form I-765WS, Form I-765 Worksheet; and

I am requesting:

1. **Initial Request** - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

   OR

2. **Renewal Request** - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

   AND

For this Renewal request, my most recent period of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals expires on

\[
\text{(mm/dd/yyyy)} \quad \rightarrow
\]

**Removal Proceedings Information**

5. Are you NOW or have you EVER been in removal proceedings, or do you have a removal order issued in any other context (for example, at the border or within the United States by an immigration agent)?

   - Yes
   - No

**NOTE:** The term “removal proceedings” includes exclusion or deportation proceedings initiated before April 1, 1997; an Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) section 240 removal proceeding; expedited removal; reinstatement of a final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal; an INA section 217 removal after admission under the Visa Waiver Program; or removal as a criminal alien under INA section 238.

If you answered "Yes" to Item Number 5., you must select a box below indicating your current status or outcome of your removal proceedings.

Status or outcome:

5.a. **Currently in Proceedings (Active)**

5.b. **Currently in Proceedings (Administratively Closed)**

5.c. **Terminated**

5.d. **Subject to a Final Order**

5.e. **Other. Explain in Part 8. Additional Information.**

5.f. Most Recent Date of Proceedings

\[
\text{(mm/dd/yyyy)} \quad \rightarrow
\]

5.g. Location of Proceedings

**U.S. Mailing Address (Enter the same address on Form I-765)**

4.a. In Care Of Name (if applicable)

4.b. Street Number and Name

4.c. Apt. [ ] Ste. [ ] Flr. [ ]

4.d. City or Town

4.e. State [ ] 4.f. ZIP Code
Part 1. Information About You (For Initial and Renewal Requests) (continued)

Other Information

6. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)
   ► A- 

7. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
   ► 

8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
   ► 

9. Gender  ☐ Male  ☐ Female

10.a. City/Town/Village of Birth
      
10.b. Country of Birth
      
11. Current Country of Residence
     
12. Country of Citizenship or Nationality
     
13. Marital Status
     ☐ Married  ☐ Widowed  ☐ Single  ☐ Divorced

Other Names Used (If Applicable)

If you need additional space, use Part 8. Additional Information.

14.a. Family Name (Last Name)
      
14.b. Given Name (First Name)
      
14.c. Middle Name
      
Processing Information

15. Ethnicity (Select only one box)
   ☐ Hispanic or Latino
   ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

16. Race (Select all applicable boxes)
   ☐ White
   ☐ Asian
   ☐ Black or African American
   ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
   ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

17. Height  Feet ☐ Inches ☐

18. Weight  Pounds ☐ ☐

19. Eye Color (Select only one box)
   ☐ Black  ☐ Blue  ☐ Brown
   ☐ Gray  ☐ Green  ☐ Hazel
   ☐ Maroon  ☐ Pink  ☐ Unknown/Other

20. Hair Color (Select only one box)
    ☐ Bald (No hair)  ☐ Black  ☐ Blond
    ☐ Brown  ☐ Gray  ☐ Red
    ☐ Sandy  ☐ White  ☐ Unknown/Other

Part 2. Residence and Travel Information (For Initial and Renewal Requests)

1. I have been continuously residing in the U.S. since at least June 15, 2007, up to the present time. ☐ Yes  ☐ No

NOTE: If you departed the United States for some period of time before your 16th birthday and returned to the United States on or after your 16th birthday to begin your current period of continuous residence, and if this is an initial request, submit evidence that you established residence in the United States prior to 16 years of age as set forth in the instructions to this form.

For Initial Requests: List your current address and, to the best of your knowledge, the addresses where you resided since the date of your initial entry into the United States to present.

For Renewal Requests: List only the addresses where you resided since you submitted your last Form I-821D that was approved.

If you require additional space, use Part 8. Additional Information.
### Part 2. Residence and Travel Information (For Initial and Renewal Requests) (continued)

#### Present Address

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.a.</th>
<th>Dates at this residence (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>From ▶</th>
<th>To ▶</th>
<th>Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.b.</td>
<td>Street Number and Name</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.d.</td>
<td>City or Town</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.e.</td>
<td>State ᵉ(State)</td>
<td>2.f. ZIP Code</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Address 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.a.</th>
<th>Dates at this residence (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>From ▶</th>
<th>To ▶</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.b.</td>
<td>Street Number and Name</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.d.</td>
<td>City or Town</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.e.</td>
<td>State ᵉ(State)</td>
<td>3.f. ZIP Code</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Address 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.a.</th>
<th>Dates at this residence (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>From ▶</th>
<th>To ▶</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.b.</td>
<td>Street Number and Name</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.d.</td>
<td>City or Town</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.e.</td>
<td>State ᵉ(State)</td>
<td>4.f. ZIP Code</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Address 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.a.</th>
<th>Dates at this residence (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>From ▶</th>
<th>To ▶</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.b.</td>
<td>Street Number and Name</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.d.</td>
<td>City or Town</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.e.</td>
<td>State ᵉ(State)</td>
<td>5.f. ZIP Code</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Travel Information

**For Initial Requests:** List all of your absences from the United States since June 15, 2007.

**For Renewal Requests:** List only your absences from the United States since you submitted your last Form I-821D that was approved.

If you require additional space, use **Part 8. Additional Information**.

#### Departure 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.a.</th>
<th>Departure Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.b.</td>
<td>Return Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.c.</td>
<td>Reason for Departure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Departure 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7.a.</th>
<th>Departure Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.b.</td>
<td>Return Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.c.</td>
<td>Reason for Departure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Have you left the United States without advance parole on or after August 15, 2012?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9.a.</th>
<th>What country issued your last passport?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.b.</td>
<td>Passport Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.c.</td>
<td>Passport Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Border Crossing Card Number (if any)

### Part 3. For Initial Requests Only

1. I initially arrived and established residence in the U.S. prior to 16 years of age.  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

2. Date of Initial Entry into the United States (on or about) (mm/dd/yyyy)

3. Place of Initial Entry into the United States
### Part 3. For Initial Requests Only (continued)

4. Immigration Status on June 15, 2012 (e.g., No Lawful Status, Status Expired, Parole Expired)

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5.a. Were you EVER issued an Arrival-Departure Record (Form I-94, I-94W, or I-95)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5.b. If you answered "Yes" to Item Number 5.a., provide your Form I-94, I-94W, or I-95 number (if available).

►

5.c. If you answered "Yes" to Item Number 5.a., provide the date your authorized stay expired, as shown on Form I-94, I-94W, or I-95 (if available).

 Ł (mm/dd/yyyy) ►

### Education Information

6. Indicate how you meet the education guideline (e.g., Graduated from high school, Received a general educational development (GED) certificate or equivalent state-authorized exam, Currently in school)

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Name, City, and State of School Currently Attending or Where Education Received

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Date of Graduation (e.g., Receipt of a Certificate of Completion, GED certificate, other equivalent state-authorized exam) or, if currently in school, date of last attendance.

Ł (mm/dd/yyyy) ►

### Military Service Information

9. Were you a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or U.S. Coast Guard?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If you answered "Yes" to Item Number 9., you must provide responses to Item Numbers 9.a. - 9.d.

9.a. Military Branch

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.b. Service Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) ►

9.c. Discharge Date (mm/dd/yyyy) ►

9.d. Type of Discharge

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Part 4. Criminal, National Security, and Public Safety Information (For Initial and Renewal Requests)

If any of the following questions apply to you, use Part 8. Additional Information to describe the circumstances and include a full explanation.

1. Have you EVER been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, including incidents handled in juvenile court, in the United States? Do not include minor traffic violations unless they were alcohol- or drug-related.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If you answered “Yes,” you must include a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc., for each arrest, unless disclosure is prohibited under state law.

2. Have you EVER been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a crime in any country other than the United States?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

If you answered "Yes," you must include a certified court disposition, arrest record, charging document, sentencing record, etc., for each arrest.

3. Have you EVER engaged in, do you continue to engage in, or plan to engage in terrorist activities?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. Are you NOW or have you EVER been a member of a gang?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5. Have you EVER engaged in, ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in any of the following:

5.a. Acts involving torture, genocide, or human trafficking?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5.b. Killing any person?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5.c. Severely injuring any person?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5.d. Any kind of sexual contact or relations with any person who was being forced or threatened?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6. Have you EVER recruited, enlisted, conscripted, or used any person to serve in or help an armed force or group while such person was under age 15?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7. Have you EVER used any person under age 15 to take part in hostilities, or to help or provide services to people in combat?

| Yes | No |
Part 5. Statement, Certification, Signature, and Contact Information of the Requestor (For Initial and Renewal Requests)

**Requestor's Certification**

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that the foregoing is true and correct and that copies of documents submitted are exact photocopies of unaltered original documents. I understand that I may be required to submit original documents to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at a later date. I also understand that knowingly and willfully providing materially false information on this form is a federal felony punishable by a fine, imprisonment up to 5 years, or both, under 18 U.S.C. section 1001. Furthermore, I authorize the release of any information from my records that USCIS may need to reach a determination on my deferred action request.

1.a. I can read and understand English, and have read and understand each and every question and instruction on this form, as well as my answer to each question.

1.b. The interpreter named in Part 6. has read to me each and every question and instruction on this form, as well as my answer to each question, in a language in which I am fluent. I understand each and every question and instruction on this form as translated to me by my interpreter, and have provided true and correct responses in the language indicated above.

**Requestor's Contact Information**

2.a. Requestor's Signature

2.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy) 

**Requestor's Contact Information**

3. Requestor's Daytime Telephone Number

4. Requestor's Mobile Telephone Number

5. Requestor's Email Address

---

Part 6. Contact Information, Certification, and Signature of the Interpreter (For Initial and Renewal Requests)

**Interpreter's Full Name**

Provide the following information concerning the interpreter:

1.a. Interpreter's Family Name (Last Name)

1.b. Interpreter's Given Name (First Name)

2. Interpreter's Business or Organization Name (if any)

**Interpreter's Mailing Address**

3.a. Street Number and Name


3.c. City or Town

3.d. State  3.e. ZIP Code

3.f. Province

3.g. Postal Code

3.h. Country

**Interpreter's Contact Information**

4. Interpreter's Daytime Telephone Number

5. Interpreter's Email Address
### Preparer's Mailing Address

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 6.</th>
<th>Preparer's Mailing Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.a.</td>
<td>Street Number and Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.c.</td>
<td>City or Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.d.</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.e.</td>
<td>ZIP Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.f.</td>
<td>Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.g.</td>
<td>Postal Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.h.</td>
<td>Country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Preparer's Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 7.</th>
<th>Preparer's Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Preparer's Daytime Telephone Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Preparer's Fax Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Preparer's Email Address</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Preparer's Declaration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 8.</th>
<th>Preparer's Declaration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.a.</td>
<td>Preparer's Signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.b.</td>
<td>Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** If you need extra space to complete any item within this request, see the next page for **Part 8. Additional Information**.
### Part 8. Additional Information (For Initial and Renewal Requests)

If you need extra space to complete any item within this request, use the space below. You may also make copies of this page to complete and file with this request. Include your name and A-Number (if any) at the top of each sheet of paper; indicate the Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number to which your answer refers; and sign and date each sheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Legal Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.a. Family Name (Last Name)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.b. Given Name (First Name)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.c. Middle Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. A-Number (if any)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 3.a. Page Number | 3.b. Part Number | 3.c. Item Number |

| 4.a. Page Number | 4.b. Part Number | 4.c. Item Number |

| 5.a. Page Number | 5.b. Part Number | 5.c. Item Number |

| 5.d. |
Appendix B

Form I-765

(Starts on Next Page)
Application For Employment Authorization

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Form I-765
OMB No. 1615-0040
Expires 05/31/2020

For USCIS Use Only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorization/Extension Valid From</th>
<th>Fee Stamp</th>
<th>Action Block</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorization/Extension Valid Through</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alien Registration Number</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks

To be completed by an attorney or Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)-accredited representative (if any).

- Select this box if Form G-28 is attached.

Attorney or Accredited Representative

USCIS Online Account Number (if any)

START HERE - Type or print in black ink.

#### Part 1. Reason for Applying

I am applying for (select only one box):

1.a. ☐ Initial permission to accept employment.

1.b. ☐ Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document, or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) error.

   **NOTE:** Replacement (correction) of an employment authorization document due to USCIS error does not require a new Form I-765 and filing fee. Refer to Replacement for Card Error in the What is the Filing Fee section of the Form I-765 Instructions for further details.

1.c. ☐ Renewal of my permission to accept employment.

   (Attach a copy of your previous employment authorization document.)

#### Part 2. Information About You

**Other Names Used**

Provide all other names you have ever used, including aliases, maiden name, and nicknames. If you need extra space to complete this section, use the space provided in Part 6.

**Additional Information.**

2.a. Family Name (Last Name)

2.b. Given Name (First Name)

2.c. Middle Name

3.a. Family Name (Last Name)

3.b. Given Name (First Name)

3.c. Middle Name

4.a. Family Name (Last Name)

4.b. Given Name (First Name)

4.c. Middle Name

**Your Full Legal Name**

1.a. Family Name (Last Name)

1.b. Given Name (First Name)

1.c. Middle Name
Part 2. Information About You (continued)

Your U.S. Mailing Address

5. In Care Of Name (if any)

5.b. Street Number and Name


5.d. City or Town

5.e. State 5.f. ZIP Code

(U.SPS ZIP Code Lookup)

6. Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address? □ Yes □ No

NOTE: If you answered “No” to Item Number 6, provide your physical address below.

U.S. Physical Address

7.a. Street Number and Name


7.c. City or Town

7.d. State 7.e. ZIP Code

Other Information

8. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)

9. USCIS Online Account Number (if any)

10. Gender □ Male □ Female

11. Marital Status □ Single □ Married □ Divorced □ Widowed

12. Have you previously filed Form I-765? □ Yes □ No

13. Has the Social Security Administration (SSA) ever officially issued a Social Security card to you? □ Yes □ No

NOTE: If you answered “No” to Item Number 13, skip to Item Number 14. If you answered “Yes” to Item Number 13, provide the information requested in Item Number 13.b.

13.b. Provide your Social Security number (SSN) (if known).

14. Do you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security card? (You must also answer “Yes” to Item Number 15, Consent for Disclosure, to receive a card.) □ Yes □ No

NOTE: If you answered “No” to Item Number 14, skip to Part 2, Item Number 18.a. If you answered “Yes” to Item Number 14, you must also answer “Yes” to Item Number 15.

15. Consent for Disclosure: I authorize disclosure of information from this application to the SSA as required for the purpose of assigning me an SSN and issuing me a Social Security card. □ Yes □ No

NOTE: If you answered “Yes” to Item Numbers 14 - 15, provide the information requested in Item Numbers 16.a. - 17.b.

Father's Name

Provide your father's birth name.

16.a. Family Name (Last Name)

16.b. Given Name (First Name)

Mother's Name

Provide your mother's birth name.

17.a. Family Name (Last Name)

17.b. Given Name (First Name)

Your Country or Countries of Citizenship or Nationality

List all countries where you are currently a citizen or national. If you need extra space to complete this item, use the space provided in Part 6. Additional Information.

18.a. Country

18.b. Country
Information About Your Eligibility Category

27. **Eligibility Category.** Refer to the **Who May File Form I-765** section of the Form I-765 Instructions to determine the appropriate eligibility category for this application. Enter the appropriate letter and number for your eligibility category below (for example, (a)(8), (c)(17)(iii)).

28. **(c)(3)(C) STEM OPT Eligibility Category.** If you entered the eligibility category (c)(3)(C) in Item Number 27., provide the information requested in Item Numbers 28.a - 28.e.

28.a. Degree

28.b. Employer's Name as Listed in E-Verify

28.c. Employer's E-Verify Company Identification Number or a Valid E-Verify Client Company Identification Number

29. **(c)(26) Eligibility Category.** If you entered the eligibility category (c)(26) in Item Number 27., provide the receipt number of your H-1B spouse's most recent Form I-797 Notice for Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker.

30. **(c)(8) Eligibility Category.** If you entered the eligibility category (c)(8) in Item Number 27., have you EVER been arrested for and/or convicted of any crime?

   - Yes
   - No

**NOTE:** If you answered “Yes” to Item Number 30., refer to **Special Filing Instructions for Those With Pending Asylum Applications (c)(8)** in the **Required Documentation** section of the Form I-765 Instructions for information about providing court dispositions.

31.a. **(c)(35) and (c)(36) Eligibility Category.** If you entered the eligibility category (c)(35) in Item Number 27., please provide the receipt number of your Form I-797 Notice for Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker. If you entered the eligibility category (c)(36) in Item Number 27., please provide the receipt number of your spouse's or parent's Form I-797 Notice for Form I-140.

31.b. If you entered the eligibility category (c)(35) or (c)(36) in Item Number 27., have you EVER been arrested for and/or convicted of any crime?

   - Yes
   - No

**NOTE:** If you answered “Yes” to Item Number 31.b., refer to **Employment-Based Nonimmigrant Categories, Items 8. - 9.**, in the **Who May File Form I-765** section of the Form I-765 Instructions for information about providing court dispositions.
**Part 3. Applicant's Statement, Contact Information, Declaration, Certification, and Signature**

NOTE: Read the Penalties section of the Form I-765 Instructions before completing this section. You must file Form I-765 while in the United States.

**Applicant's Statement**

NOTE: Select the box for either Item Number 1.a. or 1.b. If applicable, select the box for Item Number 2.

1.a. □ I can read and understand English, and I have read and understand every question and instruction on this application and my answer to every question.

1.b. □ The interpreter named in Part 4, read to me every question and instruction on this application and my answer to every question in

[language]

, a language in which I am fluent, and I understood everything.

2. □ At my request, the preparer named in Part 5, prepared this application for me based only upon information I provided or authorized.

**Applicant's Contact Information**

3. Applicant's Daytime Telephone Number

4. Applicant's Mobile Telephone Number (if any)

5. Applicant's Email Address (if any)

6. □ Select this box if you are a Salvadoran or Guatemalan national eligible for benefits under the ABC settlement agreement.

**Applicant's Declaration and Certification**

Copies of any documents I have submitted are exact photocopies of unaltered, original documents, and I understand that USCIS may require that I submit original documents to USCIS at a later date. Furthermore, I authorize the release of any information from any and all of my records that USCIS may need to determine my eligibility for the immigration benefit that I seek.

I furthermore authorize release of information contained in this application, in supporting documents, and in my USCIS records, to other entities and persons where necessary for the administration and enforcement of U.S. immigration law.

I understand that USCIS may require me to appear for an appointment to take my biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) and, at that time, if I am required to provide biometrics, I will be required to sign an oath reaffirming that:

1) I reviewed and understood all of the information contained in, and submitted with, my application; and

2) All of this information was complete, true, and correct at the time of filing.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that all of the information in my application and any document submitted with it were provided or authorized by me, that I reviewed and understand all of the information contained in, and submitted with, my application and that all of this information is complete, true, and correct.

**Applicant's Signature**

7.a. Applicant's Signature

7.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)

NOTE TO ALL APPLICANTS: If you do not completely fill out this application or fail to submit required documents listed in the Instructions, USCIS may deny your application.

**Part 4. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature**

Provide the following information about the interpreter.

**Interpreter's Full Name**

1.a. Interpreter's Family Name (Last Name)

1.b. Interpreter's Given Name (First Name)

2. Interpreter's Business or Organization Name (if any)
Part 4. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature

Interpreter's Mailing Address
3.a. Street Number and Name
3.c. City or Town
3.d. State  3.e. ZIP Code
3.f. Province
3.g. Postal Code
3.h. Country

Interpreter's Contact Information
4. Interpreter's Daytime Telephone Number
5. Interpreter's Mobile Telephone Number (if any)
6. Interpreter's Email Address (if any)

Interpreter's Certification
I certify, under penalty of perjury, that:

I am fluent in English and [language], which is the same language specified in Part 3, Item Number 1.b., and I have read to this applicant in the identified language every question and instruction on this application and his or her answer to every question. The applicant informed me that he or she understands every instruction, question, and answer on the application, including the Applicant's Declaration and Certification, and has verified the accuracy of every answer.

Interpreter's Signature
7.a. Interpreter's Signature
7.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part 5. Contact Information, Declaration, and Signature of the Person Preparing this Application, If Other Than the Applicant

Provide the following information about the preparer.

Preparer's Full Name
1.a. Preparer's Family Name (Last Name)
1.b. Preparer's Given Name (First Name)
2. Preparer's Business or Organization Name (if any)

Preparer's Mailing Address
3.a. Street Number and Name
3.c. City or Town
3.d. State  3.e. ZIP Code
3.f. Province
3.g. Postal Code
3.h. Country

Preparer's Contact Information
4. Preparer's Daytime Telephone Number
5. Preparer's Mobile Telephone Number (if any)
6. Preparer's Email Address (if any)
**Preparer's Statement**

7.a. ☐ I am not an attorney or accredited representative but have prepared this application on behalf of the applicant and with the applicant's consent.

7.b. ☐ I am an attorney or accredited representative and my representation of the applicant in this case extends ☐ does not extend beyond the preparation of this application.

*NOTE:* If you are an attorney or accredited representative, you need to submit a completed Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited Representative, with this application.

**Preparer's Certification**

By my signature, I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I prepared this application at the request of the applicant. The applicant then reviewed this completed application and informed me that he or she understands all of the information contained in, and submitted with, his or her application, including the Applicant's Declaration and Certification, and that all of this information is complete, true, and correct. I completed this application based only on information that the applicant provided to me or authorized me to obtain or use.

**Preparer's Signature**

8.a. Preparer's Signature

8.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)
Part 6. Additional Information

If you need extra space to provide any additional information within this application, use the space below. If you need more space than what is provided, you may make copies of this page to complete and file with this application or attach a separate sheet of paper. Type or print your name and A-Number (if any) at the top of each sheet; indicate the Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number to which your answer refers; and sign and date each sheet.

1.a. Family Name (Last Name)

1.b. Given Name (First Name)

1.c. Middle Name

2. A-Number (if any) ► A-

3.a. Page Number  3.b. Part Number  3.c. Item Number

3.d. __________________________________________

4.a. Page Number  4.b. Part Number  4.c. Item Number

4.d. __________________________________________

5.a. Page Number  5.b. Part Number  5.c. Item Number

5.d. __________________________________________


6.d. __________________________________________

7.a. Page Number  7.b. Part Number  7.c. Item Number

7.d. __________________________________________
Appendix C

Form I-765WS

(Starts on Next Page)
If you are applying for employment authorization under the (c)(14), Deferred Action, or (c)(33), Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, categories, you must complete this worksheet so we can determine whether you have an economic need to work. In the spaces provided, indicate your current annual income, your current annual expenses, and the total current value of your assets. Supporting evidence is not required, but U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will accept and review any documentation that you submit. You do not need to include other household members' financial information to establish your own economic necessity.

**Part 1. Your Full Name**

1.a. Family Name (Last Name)  

1.b. Given Name (First Name)  

1.c. Middle Name  

**Part 2. Financial Information**

1. My current annual income is: $  

2. My current annual expenses are: $  

3. The total current value of my assets is: $  

**Part 3. Explanation**

If you would like to provide an explanation regarding your current financial information or your economic need for employment authorization, use the space below.