

September 1, 2017

Dear Students,

Dean of Students—Dr. Marie Humphrey—has indicated to me that there are a number of CSU-Pueblo students who are enrolled as part of the **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** or ASSET programs. As such, we understand that you might be anxious about the possible repeal of these programs by President Donald Trump. Please know that CSU-Pueblo is committed to your success and your well-being. We are proud to have you among our student population because you bring cultural diversity and unique experiences and perspectives to our campus community.

Your presence on our campus embodies our commitments to diversity and access, and we are determined to see you succeed both personally and professionally. We will do all we can to support you and guide your journey to a college degree. Based on what we know today, we have provided answers to some questions you may have about your future as a ThunderWolf.

1. What is CSU-Pueblo's plan re: student information if ICE comes to campus? Will we turn over class schedules? What is the role of FERPA?

CSU-Pueblo (including the CSU-Pueblo Sheriff's Office substation) will not act as agents of ICE or work on the organization's behalf, and we will not automatically provide student information in response to a request. The university would be required to respond to legally issued warrants or subpoenas for student records. FERPA protects the confidentiality of student records, but there is a specific legal exception for subpoenas or warrants. DACA/ASSET students are not eligible for federal financial aid, so we do not accept FAFSA forms from them and do not have this information on record.

2. If students lose their SSNs, what can CSU-Pueblo do for them in terms of financial aid?

DACA students are only eligible for institutional (CSU-Pueblo) aid, so the amount of financial aid available for DACA students will not be affected by a repeal. The larger challenge of repeal for DACA students is a loss of work authorization. Most of these students work in the community to pay for school and life – many work full time to cover their expenses. If DACA is repealed and the work authorization goes away, the inability to legally work will make paying for school and life expenses more difficult (or impossible) for many students. We will certainly look at available aid resources to support our impacted students to the extent we can.

3. If students are deported, will we help them complete their degrees either online or in some other format?

Yes. We will do all we can to help students complete their degrees.

4. How are we engaging our Congressional representatives in support of DACA?

Through the Colorado State University System, we are in touch with Colorado Senators Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner and Representative Jared Polis, who are working on behalf of our DACA students. We also work on a national level through higher education coordinating bodies to express the higher education community's strong support of our Dreamers and their access to education.

5. What's the timing? How swiftly will we see an impact if the White House takes action?

We do not have an answer for this question since we do not know what, if any, action will be taken. We know that 10 states (Colorado is not included in this list) have said they will file suit if the DACA program is not ended by Sept. 5. We also have heard that proposed options being considered might focus on *future* applicants, not those with DACA status at present. We honestly do not know the answer to this.

What we do know is that we will communicate with you as soon as possible once we know more and will work closely with you to provide support and assistance.

I am empathetic to the anxiety and fear you feel as you deal with this issue and saddened that we have come to this crossroads. You are ThunderWolves and we want you to know that your welfare and success will remain our highest priorities. Take care of yourselves and each other, and know that your university will stand with you to the fullest extent possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy P. Mottet". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr. Timothy Mottet  
President