



Scholarship Information Frequently Asked Questions For Deferred Action Eligible Students

Eligibility

1) Am I eligible for the Boettcher Foundation Scholarship if I am not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident?

To be eligible to apply for a Boettcher Scholarship, you must meet the following criteria:

- Must be graduating Colorado high school seniors who have lived in Colorado for their junior and senior years of high school

- Must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States
OR
- Meet the requirements for [Colorado ASSET](#) and one of (a) or (b) below
 - a) Hold legal status in the United States; or
 - b) Meet the requirements and have applied or started the process of applying for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

If you hold another legal status (option a), please contact Tiffany Anderson, Director of the Scholarship Program, for further information.

Tiffany Anderson
Director, Scholarship Program
Tiffany@Boettcherfoundation.org
303.534.1937

If you feel you qualify for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (option b), please read below for give further information about our process.

2) What are DACA and ASSET?

- Deferred action is a federal deferral of removal (deportation) action for individuals who meet certain guidelines. It is an act of prosecutorial discretion, under an executive order, not a law. Individuals who came to the United States before the age of 16, have resided continuously in the U.S. for at least five years and meet other requirements of deferred action, may apply. An individual who has received deferred action is authorized by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to be present in the United States, and is therefore considered by DHS to be lawfully present during the period deferred action is in effect. (See more information at www.uscis.gov.)

- Colorado ASSET will allow qualified students to pay in-state tuition at Colorado's public colleges and universities as long as they meet the requirements of Colorado ASSET. To see requirements please visit www.coloradoasset.com.

Process

3) How do I apply for the Boettcher Scholarship?

- During the application round of the Boettcher Scholarship you need to select **both** the DACA and ASSET boxes on the Boettcher Scholarship application, stating that to the best of your knowledge, you will meet all requirements for both the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Colorado ASSET by August 1, 2016.
- We suggest you start the application for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), if you have not already, as soon as possible.
- If selected as a semifinalist, you must provide proof of DACA application to the Boettcher Foundation by submitting a confirmation letter from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) verifying they have received your application (Form I-797C)
 - i. To apply for DACA you must submit the following forms: I-821D, I-765 & I-765W. We also suggest you submit the G-1145 the E-Notification of Application/Petition Acceptance.
 - ii. We ask that students continue to keep us updated about any notifications they receive as their application for DACA moves through the process. These updates can be sent directly to scholarships@BoettcherFoundation.org.

4) What if I am selected as a Boettcher Scholar?

- If selected as a Boettcher Scholar, you must provide proof of approval (please reference question No. 6 below for details about proof of approval) and a signed Affirmation of Lawful Presence in the United States to the Boettcher Foundation by August 1, 2016. (Affirmation document will be provided by the Boettcher Foundation to all Boettcher Scholars.)
- A new signed Affirmation of Lawful Presence in the United States must be provided to the Boettcher Foundation **every** year that you are a Scholar.
- You must apply in a timely manner for DACA renewal and provide proof of DACA renewal approval prior to the expiration date.
- You must remain in good standing with the Boettcher Foundation in accordance with the Boettcher Foundation Scholarship program Policies and Conduct Contract.

5) Can I apply for the Boettcher Scholarship if I have applied to be lawfully present in the United States, but have not been notified of a decision yet?

- Yes. In the application round you will need to select both the DACA and ASSET boxes on the Boettcher Scholarship application, stating that to the best of your knowledge you will meet all requirements for both the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Colorado ASSET.
- If you are selected to move into the semifinalist round of Boettcher Scholarship selection or are selected as a Boettcher Scholar, there is additional proof of DACA application and approval required. (Please see questions 3 & 4 above.)

6) What must I submit in order to confirm that I am lawfully present in the United States?

- The Boettcher Scholarship is only awarded to students who are lawfully present in the United States. Selected Boettcher Scholars who are not citizens or permanent residents must submit a signed Affirmation of Lawful Presence in the United States and submit documentation of appropriate legal status or DACA approval to the Boettcher Foundation by August 1. Acceptable documentation of lawful presence includes:
 - i. Photocopy of the front and back of a valid Employment Authorization Document;
 - ii. Photocopy of Form I-797 Approval Notice, a valid I-94 card, or Form I-821D (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) showing that it is currently valid; or
 - iii. Any List A document or combination of List B and List C documents from the Department of Homeland Security's List of Acceptable Documents (located at the following link: <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-9.pdf> found at the bottom of the document). If the expiration date on your acceptable documents is on or before August 1, 2016, you must provide updated/renewal documentation to confirm your lawful presence in the United States to the Boettcher Foundation by August 1st.

7) I am not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident but I am lawfully present in the United States. However, I did not attend a Colorado high school for at least 3 years. Can I still apply for the Boettcher Scholarship?

- No, you must have been enrolled in a Colorado high school for a minimum of three years to meet the requirements of Colorado ASSET and, therefore, be considered for a Boettcher Scholarship.

8) I applied for the Boettcher Scholarship and I applied for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), but I have not been notified of the status of my DACA application. Can I still receive the Boettcher Scholarship in 2015-16?

- Students may apply for the Boettcher Scholarship before they receive confirmation of their lawful presence in the United States. However, if you are selected as a Boettcher Scholar, in order to be eligible to receive the Boettcher Scholarship, you must submit a signed Affirmation of Lawful Presence in the United States and one of the forms of acceptable documentation of your lawful presence in the United States to the Boettcher Foundation by August 1, 2016. Please reference question No. 6 above for information about acceptable documentation to confirm lawful presence.

9) What are the requirements to stay eligible for the Boettcher Scholarship?

To maintain eligibility for the Boettcher Scholarship while you are in college, you must:

- Remain in good standing with the Boettcher Foundation in accordance with the Boettcher Foundation Scholarship Program Policies and Conduct Contract.
- Sign a yearly Affirmation of Legal Presence in the United States.
- **And** provide continuous proof of lawful presence (ensuring renewal documentation is provided to the Boettcher Foundation before your original documentation's expiration date.)

10) At which colleges may I use the Boettcher Scholarship?

- Boettcher Scholars must attend a four-year college or university in the State of Colorado in order to receive the Boettcher Scholarship.
- The Boettcher Foundation's acceptance of Deferred Action and Colorado ASSET students does not guarantee acceptance of these Scholars into the different Colorado institutions, nor does it guarantee the 25% Scholarship match that the institutions provide to Boettcher Scholars. We will work individually with any selected DACA/ASSET student to ensure they pick the Colorado institution that is the best fit for their interests and eligibility status.

11) If I am no longer considered lawfully present in the United States, can I still receive the Boettcher Scholarship?

- Once you become a Boettcher Scholar, you are eligible to receive undergraduate funding for up to four (4) consecutive years, as long as you continue to be eligible to receive federal student financial aid, or continue to be lawfully present in the United States, and you remain in good standing with the Boettcher Foundation in accordance with the Boettcher Foundation Scholarship Program Policies and Conduct Contract. If you are no longer considered lawfully present in the United States, **you must notify the Boettcher Foundation immediately.**
- It is important to note that Boettcher Foundation has no control of or influence over your immigration status. For more information about DACA, visit www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals or contact Eva Serenil in Senator Michael Bennet's Office or Tiffany Anderson at the Boettcher Foundation

Eva Serenil

Eva_serenil@bennet.senate.gov

303.455.7600

Tiffany Anderson

Director, Scholarship Program

Tiffany@BoettcherFoundation.org

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If you are not lawfully present in the United States, the Boettcher Foundation will not continue to provide your scholarship.

12) If I am no longer lawfully present in the United States, will I have to pay back the Boettcher Scholarship I already received?

- No, if you met all of the Boettcher Scholarship requirements at the time you received the Boettcher Scholarship, you will not have to pay back the scholarship if you are no longer lawfully present in the United States. Your loss of lawful presence, however, will affect your ability to receive future funding from the Boettcher Foundation.

13) Can I study abroad with the Boettcher Scholarship?

- The Boettcher Scholarship and the International Education Grant can be used for study abroad programs offered through partner colleges or universities in Colorado, as long as you meet all other scholarship requirements.
- If your case was deferred under DACA or you are uncertain about how travel abroad may affect your immigration status, you should seek expert legal guidance if you are considering leaving the United States.

Resources to help find legal guidance:

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet's Office

Eva Serenil

Phone: 303.455.7600

Email: eva_serenil@bennet.state.gov

Website: <http://www.bennet.senate.gov/>

Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN)

Phone: 303.433.2812

Website: www.rmian.org

Catholic Charities

Phone: 303.742.4971

Website: www.ccdenver.org

Together Colorado

Phone: 303.399.2425

Website: www.togethercolorado.org

Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC)

Phone: 303.922.3344

Website: www.coloradoimmigrant.org

Mi Casa Resource Center

Date: 3rd Tuesday of each month

Location: 360 Acoma St.

Denver, CO 80223

Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Phone: 303.573.1302

Description: *Meet with an attorney free of charge and get information in the areas of Immigration, Credit, Housing, Landlord/Tenant, Employment and Family Law. Attorneys provide referrals to appropriate agencies. Spanish-speaking attorneys are available.*

Centro San Juan Diego

Date: 1st Wednesday of each month

Location: 2830 Lawrence St.

Denver, CO 80205

Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Phone: 303.295.9470

Description: *Meet with an attorney free of charge and get information in the areas of Immigration, Credit, Housing, Landlord/Tenant, Employment and Family Law. Attorneys provide referrals to appropriate agencies. Spanish interpreters will be available.*

Other Questions and Resources

14) Where can I go to find more information about DACA? Who do I contact?

- If you have questions about DACA, visit www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals or contact Eva Serenil in Senator Michael Bennet's Office or Tiffany Anderson at the Boettcher Foundation:
Eva Serenil
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15) If I apply for the Boettcher Scholarship, how will the information I provide be shared and protected?

- To determine your eligibility for the Boettcher Scholarship, the information you provide to the Boettcher Foundation may be shared with your high school and your selected college. The Boettcher Foundation, however, recognizes the importance of your privacy. We do not intend, for example, to the extent permitted under law, to release your information to outside organizations or agencies that are not participating in our stated goal of advancing higher education as outlined at www.boettcherfoundation.org. For more information about how student information may be used and how the Boettcher Foundation protects student information, please contact the Director of the Scholarship Program:
Tiffany Anderson
Director, Scholarship Program
Tiffany@BoettherFoundation.org
303.534.1937

16) What resources are available to help me with the DACA process?

- For more information about DACA, visit www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals or contact Eva Serenil in Senator Michael Bennet's Office:
Eva Serenil
Eva_serenil@bennet.senate.gov
303.455.7600

Additionally, see contacts listed in question No.13 above.

17) How much does it cost to apply for or renew DACA?

- The cost is \$465 through USCIS.