

**COALITION OF 284 ORGANIZATIONS, CONGRESS, AND NEW REPORT DEMAND
EXPANSION TO HEALTHCARE FOR DACA RECIPIENTS IN LIGHT OF COVID-19**
650k+ DACA recipients would immediately benefit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2020

CONTACT: Jose Magaña-Salgado, jose@masadc.com

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, 284 national, state, and local organizations sent a [letter](#) to Secretary Alex Azar of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that he, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, undo the exclusions that unlawfully exclude Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). This [letter](#) follows a [congressional letter](#) sent by over 50 Members of Congress sent late last month making the same request. Today also marks the release of a new report on the unlawful exclusion of DACA recipients from the ACA, [Protecting Essential Workers and Families: Expanding ACA Access to DACA Holders in Response to COVID-19](#). This report provides an in depth analysis of the current exclusions and who would benefit.

Despite moral and legal precedent to the contrary, HHS has thus far excluded DACA recipients from accessing affordable health insurance through the ACA. The rescission of this misguided regulation would immediately benefit over 650k current DACA recipients, 200k of which have been [classified](#) during COVID-19 as “essential infrastructure workers” by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Jose Magaña-Salgado, Coordinator for the #ACA4DACA Campaign, stated:

“Congress originally intended for all people with deferred action to access the ACA’s benefits, and DACA recipients should never have been denied access to affordable health insurance in the first place. DACA recipients, including 200,000 essential workers and 29,000 health care workers, are on the front lines of battling COVID-19 and may not have access to health care themselves. This unacceptable lack of health insurance constitutes a preventable and counterproductive barrier to COVID-19 testing and treatment that puts us all at risk. Secretary Azar must rectify this unjust and unwise exclusion.”

- Organizational [letter](#)
- Congressional [letter](#)
- New Report - [Protecting Essential Workers and Families: Expanding ACA Access to DACA Holders in Response to COVID-19](#)

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The #ACA4DACA campaign is a national campaign dedicated to restoring access to the ACA for DACA recipients. For more information, see <https://www.masadc.com/aca4daca>.