Hello All,

Below you will find updates and information on the following topics: I. California Department of Social Services (CDSS) DACA Renewal Filing Fee Assistance; II. REAL ID; III. USCIS Fee Increases; IV. Public Charge; and V. Medi-Cal Young Adult Expansion.

I. California Department of Social Services (CDSS) DACA Renewal Filing Fee Assistance

Last month, UCIMM began receiving CDSS funding to cover students' $495 DACA renewal USCIS filing fees. All campuses may encourage students to utilize these funds as long as they remain available from CDSS.

II. REAL ID

We have created a new REAL ID FAQ infographic that answers the questions: What is a REAL ID? Do I need a REAL ID? How can I get a REAL ID? Can DACA and TPS recipients get a REAL ID? Please find the pdf attached.

III. USCIS Fee Increases

On November 14, USCIS proposed a regulation that would require applicants and petitioners to pay increased fees. Among the changes proposed:

- Renewing DACA, required every two years, will cost $765, up from the current $495, a 55 percent increase.
- Applications to naturalize will increase from $640 to $1,170, an 83 percent increase.
- The cost to apply for adjustment of status to Lawful Permanent Residency will increase to $2,195 from the current $1,225, a 79 percent increase.
- A new $50 fee to apply for asylum. Only three other countries charge asylum applicants to seek protection.

The public may submit comments opposing the regulation through December 30, 2019. At the end of the comments period, USCIS must review and respond to all unique
comments. CLINIC has created a helpful public comment template for organizations to personalize. Advocates are encouraged to tailor comments to the organization and the impact on individuals. Unique details, facts, and data make a strong comment. Describing impact in terms of irreparable harm is recommended.

IV. Public Charge

The new public charge rule remains blocked by two courts. This means that nothing has changed, and the new rule cannot be implemented.

On December 10, 2019, the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) published a Public Charge Legal Services Toolkit. While the toolkit is intended for use by legal service providers, ILRC has broken out various sections of the Toolkit that could be helpful to other immigration advocates, including a Public Charge FAQ for Legal Practitioners, Public Charge Timeline, and Summary of Legal State of Affairs.

Protecting Immigrant Families has published helpful know-your-rights resources that are specific to health and nutrition, including You Have Rights - Protect Your Health, Should I Keep My Kids Enrolled in Health & Nutrition Programs, and 10 Facts About Access to Health Insurance for Immigrants and Their Families.

V. Medi-Cal Young Adult Expansion

Beginning January 1, 2020, a new law in California will allow young adults under the age of 26 to apply for full-scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. All other Medi-Cal eligibility rules, including income limits, will still apply. Because the health insurance program is entirely state-funded and does not use any federal funds, it will remain exempt from the new public charge rule.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
The UC Immigrant Legal Services Center team