Dear Coordinators & Directors,

Below you will find updates and information on the following topics: I. Update on the Federal Reconciliation Bill; II. COVID-19 vaccinations now required for immigration medical examinations; III. DHS continues Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan through December 31, 2022; and IV. ICYMI: American Immigration Council Fact Sheets on potential legislative pathways to legalization; Updated ILRC Practice Advisory on DACA Advance Parole; Immigrants Rising Law School Resource Guide for Undocumented Students: Getting Into Law School.

I. Update on the Federal Reconciliation Bill

On August 9th, Democrats introduced a Budget Resolution that allocates over $100 billion to provide legal status to eligible immigrants. Congressional committees were then tasked with writing legislation to fulfill the budget spending targets (in technical terms, committees received "reconciliation instructions" for drafting sections of the "reconciliation bill").

Earlier this week, the House Judiciary Committee approved immigration language for the reconciliation bill. The language passed on party lines, and no Republican amendments were included. Once all sections of the bill are drafted, it will go to the House floor for a vote. After that, the bill will move to the Senate.

Note: for more information on budget reconciliation, you may refer to our May and August 2021 newsletters.

II. COVID-19 vaccinations now required for immigration medical examinations

USCIS announced this week: "[E]ffective Oct. 1, 2021, applicants subject to the immigration medical examination must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before the civil surgeon can complete an immigration medical examination and sign Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record." In general, this will impact individuals applying to become lawful permanent residents, whose I-693s are signed by civil surgeons on or after October 1, 2021. USCIS will soon update Form I-693 to reflect the new requirement.

USCIS may grant a waiver if the vaccine is: not age-appropriate; contraindicated due to a medical condition; not routinely available where the civil surgeon practices; or limited in supply and would cause significant delay for the applicant to receive the vaccination.
III. DHS continues Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan through December 31, 2022

This week, DHS automatically extended TPS for recipients from El Salvador, Haiti,* Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan. Current recipients do not need to pay a fee or file any application to maintain their status and have their TPS-related documentation automatically extended—including Employment Authorization Documents (EADs). Recipients who would like to receive a new EAD showing the expiration date of December 31, 2022 can file a renewal Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765).

*Note: TPS recipients from Haiti are encouraged to apply under Haiti’s new TPS designation. Please contact your campus attorney if you have additional questions regarding TPS extensions or designations.

IV. ICYMI

- American Immigration Council Fact Sheets on potential legislative pathways to legalization
  - The Dream Act and H.R.6
  - Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2021
  - Legalization Through 245(i)
  - Legalization Through “Registry”
  - Documented Dreamers: An Overview
- Updated ILRC Practice Advisory on DACA Advance Parole
- UCImm FAQ: U Visas for Survivors of Crimes

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

Thank you,
The UC Immigrant Legal Services Center team