

## INFORMATION FOR BEL-REA APPLICANTS WITH DACA

Dear Prospective Students with DACA:

Thank you so much for your interest in Bel-Rea's veterinary technician training program. We want to make sure that we are supporting your efforts to obtain an education under current legislation and to share with you our knowledge and resources. Please discuss the information and concerns contained in this sheet with your support system before making the decision to commit your time and resources to our program. Please refer to [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) and other immigration information websites for updates, as the information provided in this sheet is subject to change.

### **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIREMENT:**

Due to program reporting requirements under current tax law, all individuals who are not international students (M-1 visa status) **must have a Social Security Number** to enroll at Bel-Rea. This includes all individuals with DACA.

If you successfully applied for DACA benefits before September 5, 2017, you were issued an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) by the federal government. **If you possess an EAD, you are eligible to apply for a Social Security Number at your local Social Security office** (visit [www.ssa.gov/locator](http://www.ssa.gov/locator) for locations).

### **DACA STATUS REQUIREMENT:**

Students with DACA must **maintain current DACA status** throughout their education. Please note that the U.S. government is not currently accepting any new applications for DACA approval. Due to federal court orders in January and February 2018, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has resumed accepting requests to renew a grant of deferred action under DACA.

**Requirements for renewing a grant of deferred action under DACA** (not an all-inclusive list):

- Must submit renewal requests within one year of the expiration date of your last period of deferred action approved under DACA.
- Must have resided continuously in the U.S. since submitting most recent DACA renewal request that was approved.
- Must not have left the U.S. on or after August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 without advanced travel permission from the U.S. government.
- Any criminal convictions or pending convictions will likely impact ability to renew DACA status.
- Cost is approximately \$500.00.

### **CONCERNS:**

We value you as a prospective student and want your time here at Bel-Rea and after to be as successful as it can be. However, please take the following concerns into consideration as you continue on the path towards a college degree:

- The future is uncertain for DACA, which may result in loss of status while enrolled in a college degree program, or the potential that employment in a chosen field may not be available in the U.S. post-graduation.
- The required withdrawal calculation for occupational degree programs in Colorado does not grant exceptions for the loss of DACA status, which may result in financial obligations to the program even if you cannot finish the program.
- Students with DACA can apply for scholarships but do not qualify for Federal Financial Aid (e.g. education grants or loans). The lack of Federal Financial Aid may impact the financial feasibility of a degree program.
- If you do not already possess a Social Security Number, please allow ample time to obtain one during your application process.