



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Office of Latino Affairs Newsletter

Statewide Community Announcements

The Office of Latino Affairs provides this compilation of information, announcements and resources that impact the Latino. It is intended to disseminate information to service providers and other stakeholders that serve and work with lowans of Latino heritage.

Resources listed in this page are not an endorsement of the organization or business.

- [COMMUNITY RESOURCES](#)
- [SCHOLARSHIPS & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES](#)
- [CONFERENCES/TRAININGS](#)
- [EVENTS](#)
- [EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Did you know...

There are thousands of Iowa residents that are facing the end of DACA or TPS as early as March, 2018.

DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals):

On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years, subject to renewal. They are also eligible for work authorization. Deferred action is a use of prosecutorial discretion to defer removal action against an individual for a certain period of time. Deferred action does not provide lawful status or path to citizenship.

[Here's a breakdown of the countries where DACA recipients come from \(USCIS report\):](#)

TPS (Temporary Protective Status):

The Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a foreign country for TPS due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately. USCIS may grant TPS to

eligible nationals of certain countries (or parts of countries), who are already in the United States.

During a designated period, individuals who are TPS beneficiaries can obtain an employment authorization document. **TPS is a temporary benefit that does not lead to lawful permanent resident status or give any other immigration status.**

Countries Currently Designated for TPS:

[El Salvador](#), [Haiti](#), [Honduras](#), [Nepal](#), [Nicaragua](#), [Somalia](#), [Sudan](#), [South Sudan](#), [Syria](#) & [Yemen](#)

The current situation:

- As of September 5, 2017, [DACA](#) permits that expire on/before March 5, 2018, can file for renewals until October 5, 2017. No new renewals will be accepted after this time. USCIS will not accept renewals at this time for applicants whose DACA expires after March 5, 2018. After March 5, 2018, recipients of DACA will lose the ability to legally work in the United States and start accruing unlawful presence as of the date that their work permits expire.
- On November 6, 2017, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke announced her decision to terminate the Temporary Protected Status ([TPS](#)) designation for [Nicaragua](#) with a delayed effective date of 12 months to allow for an orderly transition before the designation terminates on January 5, 2019.
- Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke also determined that additional information is necessary regarding the [TPS](#) designation for [Honduras](#), and therefore has made no determination regarding Honduras at this time. As a result of the inability to make a determination, the [TPS](#) designation for Honduras will be automatically extended for six months from the current January 5, 2018 date of expiration to the new expiration date of July 5, 2018.
- On November 20, 2017, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke announced her decision to terminate the Temporary Protected Status ([TPS](#)) designation for [Haiti](#) with a delayed effective date of 18 months to allow for an orderly transition before the designation terminates on July 22, 2019.

[Source: USCIS](#)

Immigration Service Providers in Iowa

The following statewide or local non-profit agencies are staffed with immigration attorneys and/or Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accredited representatives.

- [American Friends Service Committee](#)
- [Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque-Immigration Outreach Program](#)
- [Diocese of Davenport Immigration Program | Davenport](#)
- [Diversity Service Center of Iowa | Muscatine](#)
- [Iowa City Compassion Immigrant Resource Center | Iowa City](#)
- [Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)
- [Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#)
- [Iowa Legal Aid](#)
- [Justice for Our Neighbors](#)
- [Mary J. Treglia Community House | Sioux City](#)

Click [here](#) for a list of Immigration Attorneys in Iowa (from American Friends Service Committee)



To celebrate Latino heritage and honor Iowa's Latinos who have made outstanding and significant cultural, political, social, and economic contributions to Iowa, the Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs established the [Iowa Latino Hall of Fame](#) in 2017.

On October 7, 2017 we inducted three Latino leaders paying tribute to their contributions and setting them forth as role models for other Latino Iowans, ensuring that their legacy is not forgotten.

The Iowa Latino Hall of Fame plaques are displayed at the [State Historical Museum of Iowa](#).

Meet the First Iowa Latino Hall of Fame inductees:



Mary Campos (Des Moines)

Mentor, role model and advocate. First Latina appointed to the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, and co-chair of the Iowa Brown-Black Presidential Forum.



Ila Plasencia (West Des Moines)

Community volunteer, organizer and activist. Served in the first Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs, Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, and many more organizations.



Henry Vargas (Davenport)

Founding member of the Davenport Civil Rights Commission and what is now called the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs and the Office of Latino Affairs.

[Click here for more pictures of the event.](#)

Nominations are being accepted for the 2018 Iowa Latino Hall of Fame

To nominate an outstanding Iowa Latino/a, please fill out the form below. All entries must be submitted electronically by July 1, 2018. Any person or group may submit a nomination.

- [2018 IOWA LATINO HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM](#)
- [Nomination Form Instructions](#)

Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs

The November commission meeting was held in Davenport and hosted by the Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

From left to right:

~Alejandro Pino, Commissioner
~Jeannette Brown, Commission Chair
~Marlu Abarca, Commission Co-Chair
~Lorena Gingerich, Commission Secretary
~Sonia Reyes-Snyder, Office of Latino Affairs
~Lee Vasquez, Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Executive Director



Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs Vacancies

Like all statewide boards and commissions, the [Latino Affairs Commission](#) is balanced for gender and political affiliation and it's made up of seven Governor-appointed community members who volunteer their time to represent the Latino community in Iowa.

According to Iowa Section Code Section 216A.15, the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs has the following duties:

1. Study the opportunities for and changing needs of the Latino population of this state.
2. Serve as liaison between the office and the public, sharing information and gathering constituency input.
3. Recommend to the board for adoption rules pursuant to chapter 17A as it deems necessary for the commission and office.
4. Recommend to the department director policies and programs for the office.
5. Establish advisory committees, work groups, or other coalitions as appropriate.

This upcoming year we will have two vacancies, if you are interested in serving on the commission, click [here](#) to apply.

Upcoming Events

Latino Day on the Hill | January 25, 2017 | 9:00 AM to 12: PM

Commission Meeting | January 25, 2017 | 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Sonia Reyes-Snyder | Executive Officer
Office of Latino Affairs | Iowa Department of Human Rights
Lucas State Office Building 321 E 12th Street | Des Moines, IA 50319
Work 515.281.4080 | Fax 515.242.6119
sonia.reyes-snyder@iowa.gov | [Website](#)