Create a Fair & Humane Immigration System

NCAPA calls upon policymakers and leaders to support the following policies: (1) creating a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants currently residing in the country; (2) valuing all families by strengthening the family immigration system; (3) protecting immigrant workers; (4) end unjust detention and deportations by ensuring due process and human rights; and finally, (5) creating a fair system that values all immigrants, regardless of income, education levels, and country of origin.

End Inhumane and Anti-Immigrant Policies

NCAPA calls for an immediate end to the inhumane detention and family separation policies that continue to be a shameful reflection upon this country. It also demands that leaders take action to counteract the very real harm policies like the new public charge rule has had on immigrant communities.

Recommendations

- Support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) program recipients and reject any efforts to tie such a pathway to expanded inadmissibility bars.
- Prevent Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from utilizing allocated funds to deport DACA, TPS, or DED recipients.
- Clear the family and employment-based backlogs through the recapture unused visas from past years to reduce backlogs and allow the rollover of unused visas in the future.
- Administratively recapture unused visas from previous years and end the practice of counting derivatives towards the visa caps.
- Halt all deportations until a comprehensive review is completed of all deportation policies and procedures.
- Restore judicial discretion of immigration judges to stop deportations in the pursuit of humanitarian purposes to assure family unity, or when it is otherwise in the public interest.
- Establish a right to reopen proceedings for individuals who were deported because of unlawful removal orders or because their conviction(s) was vacated.
- Create an opportunity for previously deported immigrants and refugees to return home to the United States.
- Ensure all immigrants, regardless of legal status, are provided access to counsel if they are detained or in the deportation process.
- Preserve and increase protections for immigrant survivors of abuse and violence, such as increasing the number of U-visas and T-visas in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- Exercise oversight on Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) immigration judges.
- Support local, state, and federal policies that ensure English language classes, job training, and welcome centers for new immigrants are accessible to Asian Americans and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders.
- Increase funding for USCIS’ Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program.
- Expedite security-background check delays plaguing Change of Status applications, and ensure that such checks do not disproportionately target individuals based on their national origin or religious affiliation.
- Limit the Executive Branch’s authority to transfer funds between agencies for wall construction.
- Reallocate funding for Customs and Border Protection to smarter, more humane enforcement with robust due process protections.
- Consult with border communities on enforcement of our borders.
- Increase the number of visas available in the program.
- Oppose any efforts to compromise the diversity visa program.

Excerpted from the full NCAPA 2020 Policy Platform, available at ncapaonline.org/ncapa-policy-platform