

# HOW TO FIND AN ATTORNEY OR DOJ ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE

A Guide for DACA Recipients

## THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED TO ASSIST DACA RECIPIENTS WITH FINDING AN ATTORNEY OR DOJ REPRESENTATIVE.

**Unauthorized** practice of law is the practice of law by someone who is not authorized to do so. Only licensed attorneys can practice law. Remember that the attorney must be licensed in your state in order to represent you in a state court matter, such as divorce, child support, criminal defense, personal injury, etc. There are some exceptions, particularly as it relates to immigration law:

**Exception #1:** Immigration law is federal law. An attorney can be licensed in any state in the U.S. and represent you in your immigration proceedings in Nebraska. If you are going to hire an attorney licensed to practice in a state other than Nebraska, discuss transportation costs. If there is an emergency, you will likely have to pay that additional cost of the attorney's transportation.

THIS DOCUMENT IS ONLY FOR GENERAL INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE LEGAL ADVICE. PLEASE CONSULT WITH AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY REGARDING YOUR CASE.

**Exception #2:** A DOJ representative may represent you in your immigration case. DOJ representatives must work under attorney supervision.

- a. Fully accredited representatives can represent you on forms submitted to DHS and before the immigration court and the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- b. Partially accredited representatives can represent you on forms submitted to DHS only.

**Exception #3:** Law students can assist you under attorney supervision.



If you seek to hire a Nebraska-licensed attorney, you can go to the following link:  
<http://www.nebar.com/search> and search by:

- name
- state
- bar number,
- city or town, county, or location.

The list of DOJ accredited representatives is available here:

<https://www.justice.gov/eoir/page/file/942306/download#NEBRASKA>.

In addition to searching the above-mentioned websites, ask friends, local agencies, welcome centers, or chamber of commerce for recommendations.

Make sure the person you are speaking to during your consultation is an attorney or DOJ accredited representative. Feel free to ask to see their attorney license or proof of accreditation. Do not assume the person in front of you is your attorney, and be diligent about securing and maintaining a copy of a contract you enter to create your attorney-client relationship and legal service objectives. While it is common for paralegals to help attorneys, paralegals who are not accredited should not provide legal consultations.

For up-to-date information on DACA and screening for referral eligibility for an immigration legal consultation, please contact the Nebraska Immigration Legal Assistance Hotline (“NILAH”) at (855) 307-6730.

