

# How can I begin to get ready?

*If you are considering applying for the new benefit for immigrants that President Obama announced, you can begin now:*

## Try to have the following ready:

- Proof of identity**  
(birth certificate, passport national identity card)
- Proof that you are a parent of a child who is a US citizen or permanent resident** (birth certificate of your child, DNA test, any other proof (for DAPA))
- Evidence of having lived in the US since January 1, 2010** (rent or lease recpts, bills for electricity, telephone, water, etc., medical records, employment records and pay stubs, bank account statements, taxes, school records, church records, Western Union receipts, credit card records and other documents)
- Evidence that you were in the US on November 20,** (if you have not done so, get proof that you were in the US on that day, for example a bank account statement, medical record, credit card transaction or other type of evidence)
- If you were arrested and /or found guilty of a crime, get the final decision on your case, and talk with a lawyer.**



## Also Remember:

- Save up money!** *The cost of the application will be around \$465*
- Avoid problems with the authorities**
- They are not accepting applications yet. Hopefully, the application forms will be ready on the following dates:**
  - DAPA: in May, 2015
  - DACA: in February, 2015
- For now, do not pay anyone, because there is no application**



**Warning!** Do not use a public notary (*notario*), “specialist” or “immigration consultant.” In the US, they are not lawyers.

Seek help with non-profit community or legal organizations. If it is necessary, we can put you in touch with immigration lawyers who we trust..

Visit [www.paimmigrant.org](http://www.paimmigrant.org) or call (215) 832-0895 for more information about FREE workshops concerning President Obama’s announcement about changes in immigration policies.

## Contact Information for Gathering Documents:

### **How do I get a copy of my child's birth certificate?**

Each state has a department of vital statistics where you can order a copy of your child's birth certificate. You have to get the birth certificate from the state in which your child was born.

In Pennsylvania, you can order a copy of your child's birth certificate on line or go to certain vital records centers around the state and order a copy in person. To do this, go to the following website:

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/birth\\_certificates/14121](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/birth_certificates/14121)

If your child was born in another state, search in your computer for *Birth Certificates, (State)*, and you will find the website that instructs you how to order a birth certificate.

### **How do I get a copy of my Income Tax Records?**

Federal income tax records are called Transcripts. It is easy to get a copy of these records on line:

<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript>

You will have to provide a Social Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). You then may obtain your records electronically or by mail.

### **How do I get a copy of my electricity, gas or water bills?**

Contact your utility company or water company.

### **How do I get copies of my criminal records?**

If you have a criminal record, you need to talk with a lawyer who will explain how to obtain those records.

### **How do I get copies of records of my contacts (arrests, detention orders, detentions, etc.) with the immigration authorities?**

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