



National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

2016 Presidential Candidate Immigration Position Comparison Chart

[NOTE: the candidate positions identified here are based on information provided on the candidates' respective websites as of 7.6.16]

	TRUMP (R) "Make America Great Again"	CLINTON (D) "Comprehensive Immigration Reform with a Pathway to Citizenship"	SANDERS (D) "A Fair and Humane Immigration Policy"
DACA/DAPA¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately repeal DACA/DAPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend DACA/DAPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand DACA/DAPA
IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory return of all "criminal aliens" Cut off all federal grants to sanctuary cities² ICE cooperation with local police forces to conduct raids of violent street gangs Enhanced criminal penalties for overstaying visas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct humane, targeted immigration enforcement Focus on detaining/deporting individuals that pose a threat to public safety End deportation policies that split up families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decouple local law enforcement from immigration enforcement Promote local law enforcement policies that encourage community trust and respect constitutional rights of immigrants Employ humanitarian parole³
DETENTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory detention of apprehended "illegal aliens" until they are sent home (no more 'catch and release') 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End family detention Close private immigrant detention centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End for-profit Detention End family detention Seek alternatives to detention Guarantee due process and bond hearings Defund the detention bed quota⁴ Improve accountability of detention practices

¹ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) (ICE).

² "The term 'Sanctuary City' most commonly is used for cities that do not permit municipal funds or resources to be applied in furtherance of enforcement of federal immigration laws (Apsan Law Offices).

³ "Humanitarian parole is used sparingly to bring someone who is otherwise inadmissible into the United States for a temporary period of time due to a compelling emergency" (USCIS).

⁴ The bed quota requires U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to hold an average of 34,000 individuals in detention on a daily basis (immigrantjustice.org).

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BORDER SECURITY AND MILITARIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Mexico pay for the wall • Continue building the wall • Triple the number of ICE officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in technologies and personnel instead of a physical barrier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange boondoggle walls for high-grade cameras, thermal imaging, movement sensors, and other technologies • Reject piecemeal border enforcement • Reduce border deaths • End Operation Streamline and barriers to asylum⁵ • Implement “best interest of the child” standard⁶ • Turn back the militarization of the border • Hold Customs and Border Protection accountable for transparency regarding racial profiling, violence and prolonged detention • End the “Constitution Free” zone
TEMPORARY WORK PROGRAMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase prevailing wage requirement for H-1B visas by two times • End the J-1 visa jobs program for foreign youth and replace with a resume ban for inner city youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports expanding guest worker programs to address the shortage-of-labor problem in the agricultural sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elimination of abusive temporary guest worker programs (including H-2B, H-1B and J-1 workers)
WORKPLACE ENFORCEMENT AND WORKER’S RIGHTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nation-wide E-verify system⁷ • Requirement to hire American workers first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has supported bills containing workplace enforcement, including an electronic employment verification system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect against abuse of immigrant workers • Expand access to counsel for immigrants • Increase funding for the nation’s immigration courts • Close loopholes that allow racial profiling by Federal authorities • End the economic exploitation of immigrant workers • Operate smart and fair employment verification (E-verify)

⁵ A joint initiative of the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice in the United States, started in 2005, that adopts a "zero-tolerance" approach to unauthorized border-crossing by engaging in criminal prosecution of those engaging in it (Wikipedia).

⁶ Factors that courts need to consider when making decisions about a child's appropriate custody and care. Factors to be considered include parental capacity to provide adequate care, sibling and other family relationships, and the child's wishes (childwelfare.gov).

⁷ An Internet-based system that allows businesses to determine the eligibility of their employees to work in the United States (USCIS).

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IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fears certain immigrants are not “assimilating properly” • Suggests that immigrants must assimilate into American society • Emphasis on assimilation especially of Muslim and Hispanic communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a National Office of Immigrant Affairs to ensure successful immigrant and refugee integration • Support affordable integration services through 15\$ million in new grant funding for community navigators and similar organizations • Increase federal resources for adult English language education and citizenship education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully fund and prioritize immigrant integration • Expand access to naturalization • Connect integration with educational programs
TRADE AGREEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizes root cause of refugees – that we have “so destabilized the middle East”, but still does not support accepting refugees. • “I am all for free trade, but it's got to be fair.” Opposes Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In favor of free trade and has supported creating various free trade zones. • However, Clinton has since called NAFTA “a mistake” and has criticized the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish fair and equitable trade policies (rewrite policies such as NAFTA)⁸ • Address the root causes of migration and economic inequality

⁸ North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement

⁹ Provisions of the law which prohibit applicants from returning to the United States if they were previously in the U.S. illegally. Under current law they must leave the country to apply for their green card abroad, but as soon as they leave, they are immediately barred from re-entering the U.S. for three or ten years (immigrationpolicy.org)

¹⁰ Immigrants who meet these criteria are commonly referred to as “DREAMers” because they comprise most (though not all) of the individuals who meet the general requirements of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. DREAMers might be eligible for the Obama Administration’s “deferred action” initiative for unauthorized youth who were brought to this country as children (immigrationpolicy.org).

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LEGAL IMMIGRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban all immigration from “countries with a history of terrorism” (including Philippines, Iraq, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, Afghanistan, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, Malaysia, Sudan, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Mali, and Libya). End welfare abuse by demanding proof that aspiring immigrants can pay for their own housing, healthcare and other needs Mandatory hiring of unemployed immigrant and native workers before issuing new green cards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on providing visas for protecting and reuniting families, including parents of DREAMers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preservation of family-based visas Provide permanent immigration relief to families Defend the diversity visa¹¹ from attacks
OTHER POLICIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase standards for the admission of refugees and asylum-seekers to crack down on abuses End birthright citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to ensure refugees who seek asylum get the chance to tell their stories Expand access to affordable health care to all families Increase Syrian refugees by 500% (resettle 65,000 Syrian migrants) Extend temporary protected status for Central American child refugees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure access to asylum for persecuted immigrants Strengthen and expand support for refugees Reduce healthcare costs Protect women/vulnerable groups from discrimination

¹¹ A visa dedicated for immigrants from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Each year 55,000 visas are allocated randomly to nationals from countries that have sent less than 50,000 immigrants to the US in the previous 5 years.