



## National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights 2016 Political Party Immigration Position Comparison Chart \*\*

	REPUBLICAN PARTY	DEMOCRATIC PARTY
<b>Immigrant Integration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make English the nation’s official language and an essential “unifying force” for immigrant communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in culturally-appropriate immigrant integration services</li> <li>• Expand access to English language education</li> </ul>
<b>Regularization (Legalization)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oppose all forms of amnesty for unlawfully present immigrants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a path to citizenship for law-abiding immigrants.</li> <li>• Promote naturalization to help the millions of people who are eligible for citizenship take that last step.</li> <li>• Create a faster pathway to citizenship for DREAMers and veterans.</li> </ul>
<b>DACA/DAPA Executive Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The immigration executive orders of 2012 and 2014 are a direct violation of federal law and should be revoked.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defend and implement President Obama’s executive actions to help DREAMers, parents of citizens, and lawful permanent residents avoid deportation.</li> <li>• Build on these actions to provide relief for parents of DREAMers.</li> <li>• Expand opportunities for DREAMers to serve in the military and to then receive expedited pathways to citizenship.</li> </ul>
<b>Border Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize that border security is a national security issue, and that the nation’s immigration and refugee policies are placing Americans at risk.</li> <li>• Prioritize securing the borders by building a wall that covers the entire southern border sufficient enough to stop both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.</li> <li>• Use of aerial surveillance on U.S. soil, with the exception of patrolling our national borders for illegal entry and activity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reject Donald Trump’s proposal to build a wall on our southern border and alienate Mexico, a valuable partner.</li> <li>• Embrace our neighbors and pursue strong, fruitful partnerships across the region, from Canada to Latin America and the Caribbean.</li> </ul>
<b>Workplace Enforcement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect American workers, mandatory workplace enforcement through E-verify should be implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an affirmative process for workers to report labor violations and to request deferred action.</li> </ul>
<b>Deportations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gang membership and criminal activity must be penalized by deportation.</li> <li>• The Department of Homeland Security should expedite expulsion of criminal aliens.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Against deportations of immigrants who served in our armed forces.</li> <li>• Oversee any programs put in place, to make sure that there are no abuses and no arbitrary deportation programs.</li> </ul>

	<b>REPUBLICAN PARTY</b>	<b>DEMOCRATIC PARTY</b>
<b>Re-entry Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory minimum sentence of five years for any illegal alien who illegally re-enters our nation after having already been deported.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repeal the 3-year, 10-year and permanent bars, which often force persons in mixed status families into the heartbreaking dilemma of either pursuing a green card by leaving the country and their loved ones behind, or remaining in the shadows.</li> </ul>
<b>State licenses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using state licenses to reward people in the country illegally is an affront to the rule of law and must be halted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support efforts by states to make DREAMers eligible for driver's licenses.</li> </ul>
<b>Local and State Authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New guest worker programs must eliminate fraud, improve efficiency and ensure they serve the national interest.</li> <li>Supports the right of the states to enact laws deterring illegal aliens from residing within their states. Condemns the current Administration's assaults on State governments such as voter ID laws to immigration, from healthcare programs to land use decisions.</li> <li>Oppose sanctuary cities, as they violate federal law and endanger citizens. These cities should not be eligible for federal funding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This issue was not explicitly addressed in the platform.</li> <li>Promote best practices among local law enforcement, in terms of how they collaborate with federal authorities, to ensure that they maintain and build trust between local law enforcement and the communities they serve.</li> </ul>
<b>Refugee &amp; Asylum Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to keep our people safe, we must enforce our immigration laws, and properly screen refugees and other immigrants entering from any country.</li> <li>Asylum should be limited to cases of political, ethnic or religious persecution.</li> <li>To ensure our national security, refugees who cannot be carefully vetted cannot be admitted to the country, especially those whose homelands have been the breeding grounds for terrorism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support President Obama's call for an international summit to address the global refugee crisis so that every country assumes responsibility to help refugees.</li> <li>Look for ways to help innocent people who are fleeing persecution while ensuring rigorous screening and vetting.</li> </ul>
<b>Temporary Protected Status</b>	<p>This issue was not explicitly addressed in the platform.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen in-country and third-country processing, expand the use of humanitarian parole, and grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to better protect vulnerable populations</li> <li>Help more Haitians take advantage of TPS</li> <li>Ensure due process for those fleeing violence in Central America and work with our regional partners to address the root causes of violence.</li> <li>Take particular care with children by guaranteeing government-funded counsel for unaccompanied children in immigration courts.</li> </ul>

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<b>Detention &amp; Immigration Enforcement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Homeland Security has long term detention authority to keep “dangerous but deportable aliens” off our streets.</li> <li>Ensure that public funds are not given to unlawfully present persons, SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements) should be implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritize detention of those who pose a threat to the safety of our communities.</li> <li>End raids and roundups of children and families, which unnecessarily sow fear in immigrant communities.</li> <li>Fight to end federal, state, and municipal contracts with for-profit private prisons and private detention centers.</li> <li>End family detention, and ensure humane alternatives for those who pose no public threat.</li> <li>Recognize that there are vulnerable communities within our immigration system who are often seeking refuge from persecution abroad, such as LGBT families, for whom detention can be unacceptably dangerous.</li> <li>End racial profiling that targets individuals solely on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>In-state College Tuition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal funding should be denied to universities that provide in state tuition rates to illegal aliens.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support efforts by states to make DREAMers eligible for in-state college tuition.</li> </ul>
<b>Legal Immigration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In light of the economy, it is indefensible to continue offering lawful permanent residence to more than one million foreign nationals every year.</li> <li>Focus on “the alarming levels of unemployment and underemployment”, rather than bringing in more immigrants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support legal immigration, within reasonable limits, that meets the needs of families, communities, and the economy as well as maintains the United States’ role as a beacon of hope for people seeking safety, freedom, and security.</li> <li>Create more ways for people to come to the United States with visas and not through smugglers.</li> <li>Address family backlogs and defend against those who would exclude or eliminate legal immigration avenues and denigrate immigrants.</li> </ul>
<b>Quota System</b>	This issue was not explicitly addressed in the platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current quota system discriminates against certain immigrants, including immigrants of color, and needs to be reformed.</li> </ul>
<b>Immigration Backlog</b>	This issue was not explicitly addressed in the platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The immigration bureaucracy is full of backlogs that result in U.S. citizens waiting for decades to be reunited with family members, and green card holders waiting for years to be reunited with their spouses and minor children.</li> </ul>

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<b>Healthcare Access</b>	This issue was not explicitly addressed in the platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to ensure that all Americans—regardless of immigration status—have access to quality health care.</li> <li>• Expand community health centers, allowing all families to buy into the Affordable Care Act exchanges, supporting states that open up their public health insurance programs to all persons</li> </ul>
<b>Trade Agreements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republicans envision a worldwide multilateral agreement among nations committed to the principles of open markets, what has been called a “Reagan Economic Zone,” in which free trade will truly be fair trade for all concerned.</li> <li>• Broaden trade agreements with countries that share our values and commitment to fairness, along with transparency in our commercial and business practices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oppose trade agreements that do not support good American jobs, raise wages, and improve our national security.</li> <li>• Ensure any new trade agreements include strong and enforceable labor and environmental standards in their core text with streamlined and effective enforcement mechanisms.</li> <li>• Trade agreements should crack down on the unfair and illegal subsidies other countries grant their businesses at the expense of ours.</li> <li>• Promote innovation of and access to lifesaving medicines. And it should protect a free and open Internet.</li> <li>• Oppose trade agreements that prevent our government, or other governments, from putting in place rules that protect the environment, food safety, or the health of American citizens or others around the world.</li> <li>• These are the standards Democrats believe must be applied to all trade agreements, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).</li> </ul>
<b>Other Policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pending Department of Justice lawsuits against Arizona, Alabama, South Carolina and Utah should be dismissed.</li> <li>• Supports the application of special scrutiny to those foreign nationals from terror-sponsoring countries or from regions associated with Islamic terrorism *Which was done successfully after September 11, 2001, under the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democrats will not stand for the divisive and derogatory language of Donald Trump. His offensive comments about immigrants and other communities have no place in our society.</li> <li>• Reject attempts to impose a religious test to bar immigrants or refugees from entering the US.</li> </ul>

**\*\* The positions shared here are drawn directly from the 2016 Republican and Democratic Party platforms:**

Official 2016 Republican Party Platform, [https://prod-static-ngop-pbl.s3.amazonaws.com/media/documents/DRAFT\\_12\\_FINAL\[1\]-ben\\_1468872234.pdf](https://prod-static-ngop-pbl.s3.amazonaws.com/media/documents/DRAFT_12_FINAL[1]-ben_1468872234.pdf)

Official 2016 Democratic Party Platform: <https://www.demconvention.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Democratic-Party-Platform-7.21.16-no-lines.pdf>