U.S. is Losing the Benefits of Talented International Students

NAFSA — Connecting People. Changing the World.™

America Needs International Students and Scholars

The United States is in a competition for global talent with other countries. In 2022, as travel restrictions lifted and in-person learning returned following the COVID-19 pandemic, new international student enrollment shot up 80 percent due to pent up demand. Yet *we continue to lose our market share* of international students and scholars (down 13% since 2000), while many other countries have proactively established national policies and marketing strategies in order to attract these talented individuals.

AUSTRALIA

Australia — FutureUnlimited

International students can work up to two years after graduation with a bachelor's degree and three years with a master's degree.[1]

Graduates of certain high needs occupations are able to work longer, in accordance with their degree.[2]

In 2022, Australia raised the cap on its permanent migration program to 195,000 people per year (up 35,000) to address critical skill shortages.[3]

CANADA

ÉduCanada — A world of possibilities / Un monde de possibilités

International students can work for up to two years after graduation if the period of study in Canada was between 8-months and two years, and up to three years if the period of study was longer.[4]

Work experience considered "skilled" helps graduates qualify for legal residence in Canada.[5]

CHINA

CEAIE — 中国教育国际交流协会 — China Education Association for International Exchange

International students graduating with a master's degree or above are immediately eligible to apply for work visas within one year of graduation.[6]

International students in innovation and entrepreneurial fields with outstanding academic records can apply for a residence permit valid for two to five years.[7]

What the U.S. Government Can Do to Help Our Universities Compete

America needs **a national strategy for international education** including goals to increase the number and diversity of international students.

Congress should allow **international student visa applicants** to express interest in staying in the U.S. after graduation.

We urge Congress to **make more green cards available** for students who graduate from our universities.

nafsa.org/policy

SOURCES 1,2 tinyurl.com/AUgov-TGVSPSWS | 3 tinyurl.com/PieNews-202209Prakaash | 4 tinyurl.com/CAgov-PGWP
5 tinyurl.com/CA-StayPostGraduation | 6 tinyurl.com/CN-PostStudyWorkGraduates | 7 tinyurl.com/CN-Adm-201908Chiu

20230522