

Domestic Renewal of Student Visas



NAGPS Legislative
Concerns Committee

We urge Congress to sponsor and pass legislation that would allow domestic renewal of Class F student visas.

Benefits of Domestic Renewal Include:

Positive Economic Impact

- According to NAFSA, in the 2013-2014 academic year, foreign students and their families supported **340,000 U.S. jobs** and contributed nearly **\$27 billion** to the U.S. economy. [2]
- For every 2 international students enrolled, 1 U.S. job is created or supported. [1] [2]

Decreased Bureaucracy

- Providing F visa holders with the option of domestic renewal has the potential to drastically reduce the workload on U.S. consulates and to prevent unnecessary travel by these visa holders and their families.

Security

- Additional resources, available domestically, allow visas to be renewed more securely than when renewed in other countries.
- The experience and expertise of domestic State Department and Department of Homeland Security officials provides for greater security throughout the visa renewal process.

Saves Time and Money for International Students

- Allowing domestic renewal of F visas would circumvent the unnecessary time and financial burden currently required for students to renew their academic student visas.
- Spending time and money to travel back to their home country is an undue hardship which international students are currently enduring during their academic careers. [3]

Promotes the Progress of Federally Funded Research

- Currently international students funded by federal research dollars are hindered from representing high caliber US research on the international stage. [3]

Attract the World's Best and Brightest

- Between 2001 and 2014, the portion of international students studying in the U.S. has declined by 29%. [4]
- Talented foreign students are being enticed to studying in other countries with more attractive student visa policies. [5] [3]

Nearly
1 million
international students
and their dependents are
directly impacted [1] [2]

Foreign students and
their families accounted
for a net economic
contribution of nearly [2]

\$27
billion

Domestic resources
and experienced
officials provide
greater security
throughout the visa
renewal process.

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References

- [1] Open Doors Report on International Education Exchange 2014, Institute of International Education.
www.iie.org/opendoors

- [2] The Economic Benefit of International Students 2014, NAFSA
www.nafsa.org/_/File/_/eis2014/USA.pdf

- [3] Policy Implications of International Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars in the United States, The National Academies.
www.nap.edu/catalog/11289.html

- [4] Atlas of Student Mobility, Institute of International Education.
www.iie.org/projectatlas

- [5] U.S. Immigration Policy, Council on Foreign Relations.
www.cfr.org/immigration/us-immigration-policy/p20030

Resources

International student economic impact per state and U.S. Congressional district visit:
www.nafsa.org/economicvalue

Report of the Secure Borders and Open Doors Advisory Committee, January 2008:
http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hsac_SBODACreport508-compliant_version2.pdf

Legislation

NAGPS Proposed Language: Domestic Revalidation of Student Visas:
<http://nagps.org/proposed-language-domestic-revalidation-of-student-visas/>