

Strengthen Academic Visa Processing



NAGPS Legislative
Concerns Committee

We urge Congress to sponsor and pass legislation that would allow stateside processing of Class F student visa renewals

Currently:

International students must renew their visas at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate office abroad — a process that takes at least 30 days. Requiring the renewal of academic visas abroad disrupts scholarship, impedes research, and imparts an undue hardship on our international scholars.

Benefits of Stateside Processing Include:

Supports and Creates U.S. Jobs

- For every 2 international students enrolled, 1 U.S. job is created or supported. [1][2]

Fosters American Research Competitiveness

- Currently, international students funded by federal research dollars are hindered from conducting and representing high caliber U.S. research on the international stage. [3]

Attracts the World's Best and Brightest

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

Saves Time and Money

- Allowing stateside renewal of F visas would circumvent the unnecessary time and financial burden currently required for students to renew their visas. [3]
- Without these additional hardships, international students would be able to contribute more to the U.S. economy. According to NAFSA, in the 2014-2015 academic year, foreign students and their families supported over **370,000 U.S. jobs** and contributed **\$30.5 billion** to the U.S. economy. [2]

Preserves Security Standards

- Stateside processing will be able to uphold the security standards that are in place at our consulates abroad. This proposal takes the same screening process currently happening out of the country and offers it in the U.S.

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 [2]

\$30.5 billion

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References

- [1] **Open Doors Report on International Education Exchange 2014**, Institute of International Education.
<http://www.iie.org/opendoors>
- [2] **The Economic Benefit of International Students 2015**, NAFSA: Association of International Educators.
http://www.nafsa.org/_/File/_/econvalue2015_natl.pdf
- [3] **Policy Implications of International Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars in the United States**, The National Academies.
<http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11289.html>
- [4] **Atlas of Student Mobility**, Institute of International Education.
<http://www.iie.org/projectatlas>
- [5] **U.S. Immigration Policy**, Council on Foreign Relations.
<http://www.cfr.org/immigration/us-immigration-policy/p20030>

Resources

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

Departments of State and Homeland Security, Secure Borders and Open Doors Advisory Committee, made a similar recommendation in 2008
http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hsac_SBODACreport508-compliant_version2.pdf

Over 40 higher education, science, and engineering organizations have made similar recommendations
<http://www.aau.edu/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=3142>

Student Testimonials

<http://nagps.org/domestic-visa-revalidation/>

Proposed Legislation

<http://nagps.org/proposed-language-domestic-revalidation-of-student-visas/>