International Students Contribute to Our Economy and American Innovation

International Students Grow the U.S. Economy

While international students make up only 5.5% of overall U.S. college enrollments, they make significant contributions to our communities.¹

International students contributed $39 billion to the U.S. economy last year.²

International students created or supported over 455,000 U.S. jobs. That’s three jobs for every seven international students.³

Nearly one-quarter of the founders of the $1 billion U.S. startup companies first came to America as international students.⁵

International Students Help America Lead in Innovation

For America to remain the leader in scientific discovery, we must continue to attract the best and brightest from around the world.⁶

U.S. productivity is generated largely by advances in technological improvements. Technological improvements are largely driven by the rate of innovation.⁶

In 2016, all six American winners of the Nobel Prizes in economics and scientific fields were immigrants.⁷

Immigrants have been awarded 40% of the Nobel Prizes won by Americans in chemistry, medicine, and physics since 2000.⁸

SOURCES 1 www.iie.org/opendoors 2,3 tinyurl.com/NAFSAEconomicValueTool 4 https://tinyurl.com/ImmigrantAndStartup 5,6 tinyurl.com/IntlStudentContributions 7,8 tinyurl.com/ImmigrantsNobelPrizes