



International Exchange: A Proven Investment

An investment in international educational and cultural exchange programs (international exchange) is an investment in the U.S. economy, in the next generation of global leaders, in America's standing in the global community, and in the very spirit of America.

DRIVING AMERICA'S ECONOMY

An investment in international exchanges is an investment in the U.S. economy.

International students contribute **\$43.8 billion** to the U.S. economy and support more than **378,000** American jobs. (Source: NAFSA)

Roughly **90 percent** of U.S. Department of State exchange program dollars is spent on Americans or in America. (Source: U.S. Department of State)

ADVANCING AMERICAN INTERESTS

International exchanges create political and business networks around the world – networks that cement diplomatic relationships, strengthen national security, and bolster the economy.

U.S. Department of State programs cultivate relationships between American students and future leaders around the world.

International exchanges impact local communities – from the local economy and workforce, to school, family and government life.

CREATING FUTURE LEADERS

International exchanges build American leaders to be successful on the world stage.

More than **31 million** job openings require skills in communication, leadership and problem solving – all skill sets shaped through international exchange programs. (Source: NAFSA)

Studying and traveling abroad helps to build careers, and young people know it. Nearly **9 out of 10** youth surveyed say they believe youth and travel experiences increase employability. (Source: StudentUniverse)

TELLING AMERICA'S STORY

Exchange programs provide perspective into many different aspects of the lived American experience, building familiarity, kinship and trust.

Communities celebrate exchanges. **Four out of five** Americans feel international exchange programs enhance the image of their community as a good place to live. (Source: Global Ties U.S.)

More than **1.3 million** student and professional participants are immersed in American society and culture every year. Over **1 million** study in U.S. colleges and universities, and over **350,000 participate** in Department of State exchanges. (Source: Alliance for International Exchange)