



**The Economic Benefits of International Education to the  
United States for the 2007-2008 Academic Year:  
A Statistical Analysis**

NAFSA estimates that foreign students and their dependents contributed approximately \$15.54 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2007-2008 academic year. This conservative figure is based on tuition figures from Peterson's, enrollment figures from the Institute of International Education's *Open Doors 2008* report, living expenses calculated from Peterson's figures and analysis of the data by Jason Baumgartner at Indiana University – Bloomington's Office of International Services.

NAFSA's annual *Economic Impact Statements* estimate the amount of money foreign students bring to the United States to support their education. This report does not rely on a "multiplier effect." Although this might provide a more accurate estimate of actual economic impact, there is no consensus on the appropriate size of such a multiplier. Along with our partners at the Institute of International Education and Indiana University, we are committed to continuing efforts to improve our data and methodology. By any measure, international education makes a significant contribution to the U.S. economy.

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# Massachusetts

Total Number of Foreign Students: 31,683

## Part 1: Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students (2007-08)

Contribution from Tuition and Fees to State Economy:	\$796,949,000
Contribution from Living Expenses:	\$676,989,000
Total Contribution by Foreign Students:	\$1,473,938,000
Less U.S. Support of 33.8%	- \$497,745,000
Plus Dependents' Living Expenses:	+ \$27,772,000

### *Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students and their Families:*

**\$1,003,965,000**

## Part 2: Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students' Dependents (2007-08)

### *Spouses' Contribution*

Percent of Married Students:	11.2%
Percent of Spouses in the U.S.:	85.0%
Number of Spouses in the U.S.:	3,555
Additional Expenses for a Spouse: (% of student living expenses)	25.0%
Spouses' Contribution:	\$18,762,000

### *Children's Contribution*

Number of Couples in the U.S.:	3,555
Number of Children per Couple:	0.6
Number of Children in the U.S.:	2,131
Additional Expenses for a Child: (% of student living expenses)	20.0%
Children's Contribution:	\$9,010,000

### *Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students' Dependents:*

**\$27,772,000**

## Part 3: Foreign Student Contribution from Tuition/Fees and Living Expenses (2007-08)

Institution and City	# of Foreign Students	Tuition and Fees (thousands)	Living Expenses and Dependents (thousands)	Less U.S. Support (thousands)	Total Contribution (thousands)
American International College, Springfield	53	\$1,192.5	\$1,252.9	\$305.3	\$2,140.0
Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre	11	\$91.0	\$237.4	\$100.5	\$228.0
Anna Maria College, Paxton	12	\$246.2	\$205.1	\$55.4	\$395.9
Assumption College, Worcester	13	\$329.8	\$173.0	\$62.3	\$440.5
Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster	56	\$899.6	\$580.2	\$730.3	\$749.5
Babson College, Babson Park	773	\$23,543.4	\$21,110.5	\$3,615.2	\$41,038.7
Bay Path College, Longmeadow	13	\$286.9	\$282.6	\$146.6	\$422.9
Becker College, Worcester	***	\$179.7	\$146.2	\$80.2	\$245.7
Bentley College, Waltham	639	\$18,145.0	\$16,205.5	\$4,391.9	\$29,958.6
Berklee College of Music, Boston	912	\$29,332.7	\$28,128.9	\$504.9	\$56,956.7
Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield	44	\$381.7	\$1,099.1	\$53.7	\$1,427.2
Boston College, Chestnut Hill	899	\$27,469.0	\$22,906.9	\$16,683.1	\$33,692.8
Boston Conservatory, Boston	103	\$2,651.7	\$3,438.3	\$112.5	\$5,977.4

Boston University, Boston	4789	\$143,641.5	\$110,402.8	\$94,238.6	\$159,805.7
Brandeis University, Waltham	1052	\$30,596.6	\$20,974.5	\$21,128.8	\$30,442.3
Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater	105	\$1,144.3	\$1,577.5	\$343.5	\$2,378.3
Bristol Community College, Fall River	30	\$167.5	\$699.6	\$31.9	\$835.2
Bunker Hill Community College, Boston	667	\$4,822.3	\$7,420.9	\$428.0	\$11,815.2
Cape Cod Community College, West Barnstable	24	\$232.9	\$571.7	\$27.1	\$777.5
Clark University, Worcester	493	\$14,562.7	\$6,961.2	\$7,040.8	\$14,483.0
Curry College, Milton	23	\$596.3	\$547.3	\$263.0	\$880.6
Dean College, Franklin	84	\$2,059.0	\$2,138.8	\$141.6	\$4,056.2
Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy	16	\$308.6	\$260.4	\$138.5	\$430.5
Elms College, Chicopee	***	\$120.0	\$104.2	\$57.7	\$166.5
Emerson College, Boston	230	\$4,677.1	\$4,861.9	\$1,241.0	\$8,298.1
Emmanuel College, Boston	38	\$787.5	\$765.4	\$334.5	\$1,218.4
Endicott College, Beverly	65	\$1,488.5	\$1,682.7	\$791.0	\$2,380.3
Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge	***	\$50.6	\$137.2	\$57.4	\$130.3
Fitchburg State College, Fitchburg	257	\$2,619.6	\$3,588.8	\$817.8	\$5,390.7
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton	104	\$1,011.4	\$2,589.2	\$1,165.6	\$2,435.1
Greenfield Community College, Greenfield	27	\$315.6	\$650.4	\$35.6	\$930.3
Harvard University, Cambridge	4948	\$125,230.2	\$98,174.5	\$106,742.1	\$116,662.7
Hebrew College, Newton Centre	***	\$100.5	\$131.9	\$71.6	\$160.8
Lasell College, Newton	42	\$895.9	\$949.9	\$427.4	\$1,418.4
Lesley University, Cambridge	101	\$2,352.4	\$2,442.9	\$605.6	\$4,189.6
Longy School of Music, Cambridge	56	\$1,244.2	\$1,348.2	\$37.3	\$2,555.1
Massachusetts Bay Community College, Wellesley Hills	155	\$1,468.5	\$2,912.2	\$148.4	\$4,232.4
Massachusetts College of Art, Boston	56	\$1,033.0	\$1,317.2	\$29.1	\$2,321.1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge	3360	\$100,886.6	\$88,724.8	\$86,779.7	\$102,831.6
Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay	***	\$74.7	\$66.8	\$36.4	\$105.1
Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, Boston	***	\$137.8	\$220.4	\$5.2	\$352.9
Merrimack College, North Andover	44	\$1,222.2	\$1,043.5	\$1,095.0	\$1,170.7
Middlesex Community College, Lowell	40	\$371.5	\$586.5	\$35.4	\$922.5
Montserrat College of Art, Beverly	***	\$44.6	\$27.0	\$1.3	\$70.3
Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley	413	\$13,477.5	\$9,464.2	\$11,319.8	\$11,621.9
Mount Ida College, Newton Centre	84	\$1,621.1	\$1,938.4	\$909.0	\$2,650.6
Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner	31	\$316.8	\$748.7	\$34.7	\$1,030.8
New England College of Optometry, Boston	108	\$1,791.2	\$2,875.4	\$117.2	\$4,549.3
New England School of Acupuncture, Newton	***	\$120.6	\$163.4	\$4.1	\$279.9
Newbury College, Brookline	60	\$960.4	\$1,073.0	\$519.6	\$1,513.8
Nichols College, Dudley	***	\$133.3	\$127.0	\$13.6	\$246.8
Northeastern University, Boston	2444	\$71,677.1	\$63,119.2	\$42,915.8	\$91,880.5
Quincy College, Quincy	550	\$2,864.7	\$9,374.3	\$412.5	\$11,826.5
Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester	35	\$290.3	\$709.8	\$36.9	\$963.2
Regis College, Weston	10	\$233.3	\$234.3	\$95.0	\$372.6
Roxbury Community College, Roxbury	43	\$344.8	\$847.1	\$44.0	\$1,147.8
Salem State College, Salem	482	\$5,372.3	\$7,297.6	\$1,509.7	\$11,160.1
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston	45	\$1,146.8	\$1,155.1	\$33.1	\$2,268.8

Simmons College, Boston	101	\$1,590.9	\$2,182.7	\$480.1	\$3,293.5
Simon's Rock College of Bard, Great Barrington	12	\$371.3	\$229.9	\$59.1	\$542.1
Smith College, Northampton	251	\$7,273.5	\$5,659.8	\$6,367.3	\$6,566.0
Springfield College, Springfield	57	\$836.8	\$1,142.5	\$250.5	\$1,728.8
Stonehill College, Easton	10	\$284.4	\$268.7	\$270.2	\$282.9
Suffolk University, Boston	763	\$16,926.5	\$22,579.4	\$5,083.8	\$34,422.0
Tufts University - School of Medicine, Boston	213	\$3,326.3	\$5,141.8	\$4,616.0	\$3,852.0
Tufts University - The Fletcher School, Medford	251	\$7,572.5	\$5,544.0	\$3,337.0	\$9,779.5
Tufts University, Medford	815	\$25,310.2	\$16,968.9	\$12,083.0	\$30,196.1
University of Massachusetts - Amherst, Amherst	1743	\$26,289.4	\$25,542.5	\$23,839.3	\$27,992.6
University of Massachusetts - Boston, Boston	568	\$9,588.4	\$15,344.4	\$5,430.5	\$19,502.4
University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth, North Dartmouth	290	\$2,802.8	\$6,094.7	\$1,138.2	\$7,759.3
University of Massachusetts - Lowell, Lowell	453	\$6,480.2	\$6,662.3	\$2,933.1	\$10,209.4
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Shrewsbury	193	\$3,272.9	\$4,769.1	\$4,195.8	\$3,846.2
Wellesley College, Wellesley	213	\$6,473.9	\$4,808.4	\$5,558.4	\$5,723.9
Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston	119	\$2,115.8	\$2,424.6	\$45.1	\$4,495.3
Western New England College, Springfield	32	\$752.3	\$707.4	\$184.9	\$1,274.9
Wheelock College, Boston	15	\$365.1	\$355.0	\$92.0	\$628.2
Williams College, Williamstown	172	\$6,135.2	\$3,931.0	\$4,945.7	\$5,120.5
Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester	609	\$18,703.7	\$13,695.6	\$7,347.4	\$25,051.9
Worcester State College, Worcester	111	\$1,113.8	\$1,933.7	\$383.5	\$2,663.9

## **Methodology: How We Compute Economic Impact (2008)**

We define economic impact as the amount of money that foreign students collectively bring into the United States to pay for their education and to support themselves while they (and in some cases, their families) are here. The goal of our economic impact formula is to use data already collected for other purposes to provide a reasonable estimate of the economic resources that foreign students import to the United States to support their education here each year.

The data sets used for these reports come from two sources:

1. The Institute of International Education's *Open Doors 2008* report, funded by the Department of State, provides numbers of foreign students at universities and colleges throughout the United States during the 2007-08 academic year. In many cases, this data provide separate totals for undergraduate, graduate, and non degree students. (<http://opendoors.iienetwork.org>)
2. Peterson's provides cost figures for tuition, living, and miscellaneous expenses at U.S. institutions for the 2007-08 academic year. (<http://www.petersons.com/>)

The extensive data provided by these two sources (which collect it directly from surveys of the institutions involved) allow us to make our estimates sensitive to differences between institutions. However, there are still areas where our estimates and formulas could be improved. For example, we compute economic impact only for students reported in *Open Doors*. Universities that do not provide information to the Institute of International Education are not represented. Also, enrollment reports represent peak enrollment, and not necessarily enrollment levels throughout the year.

### **Estimating Expenses**

Tuition, fees, living expenses, and dollar estimates are derived from Peterson's data collected on surveys completed by institutions every year. We try to make our calculations sensitive not only to differing costs at institutions, but differing costs for ESL students, undergraduates, graduate students, and students on practical training.

#### **(1) Undergraduates and English Language Programs:**

The number of undergraduate students at an institution is specified by *Open Doors* data. Peterson's data provide undergraduate tuition and fee amounts, on-campus room and board amounts, and miscellaneous expenses. These categories are sometimes broken down into averages for international, out-of-state, flat rate, and in-state, students. When multiple averages are available, we choose averages in the order given above.

#### **(2) Graduate Students:**

The number of graduate students at an institution is specified by *Open Doors* data. Peterson's data provide graduate tuition and fee amounts, on-campus room and board amounts, and miscellaneous expenses. If there are no differentiated graduate expenses provided by an institution in the Peterson's data, then the undergraduate expenses would be applied.

(3) Students on Practical Training:

We assume these students earn enough in their U.S. jobs to pay living and educational expenses for the year, and so import no funds for their support. Therefore, net economic impact of students in practical training is zero.

Economic impact of an international student equals tuition and fees, plus room and board, plus miscellaneous figured at 50 percent of room and board, less U.S. support. We assume: (a) that spring enrollment figures are the same as the fall figures reported, (b) that all students are enrolled full time for two semesters or three quarters a year, and (c) that students live on campus for the full year. The miscellaneous expenses, enumerated in Peterson's data, average about 40 percent of room and board expenses. We use a 50 percent figure as an approximation that includes all extra expenses except for travel.

### **Estimating U.S. Support**

The *Open Doors* survey asks schools to report the percentage of their students who are self-funded, the percentage who have U.S. source income, etc. The U.S. support percentage includes funding from a U.S. college or university, the U.S. Government, a U.S. private sponsor or current employment. For this analysis the percentages are calculated based upon the institution's Carnegie classification and the academic career of the student. For example, this process will differentiate the level of support between undergraduates and graduates at a particular research institution while it also differentiates between a baccalaureate classified institution from an associate's classified institution.

### **Individual Institution Enrollment Figures**

For institutions with fewer than 10 international students enrolled, enrollment totals are suppressed for confidentiality reasons. In the reports, this is indicated by three asterisks (\*\*\*)