A quality education is a global education. Unfortunately, too many students are graduating college without the global skills needed to thrive in the global economy. We know that college students want to study abroad, yet only 10% of students study abroad before they graduate. Even further, minority students are greatly underrepresented within those numbers. The Simon Program provides a path to correct this imbalance.

U.S. STUDY ABROAD CONTRIBUTES TO...

**Student Success**

**Higher Graduation Rates**

Four-year graduation rates are 18% higher for students who study abroad.

**Higher GPA**

Studying abroad has been shown to increase a student’s GPA.

**More Employable**

More than 31 million job openings require skills that come from studying abroad.

**The Nation**

**American Workers**

41 million jobs in the United States are tied to international trade.

**Global Engagement**

Students who study abroad show greater improvements in language skills.

**Enlightened Citizenship**

Studying abroad develops a greater appreciation of U.S. culture and less fear of others.
NAFSA has long advocated for a federal study abroad grant program to incentivize colleges and universities to remove the barriers that keep students from studying abroad. The Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act would pursue four key objectives:

ENSURE

at least **1,000,000 students** study abroad every year.

INCREASE

the diversity of students studying abroad to reflect the undergraduate population.

ENCOURAGE

a greater portion of study abroad to occur in nontraditional study abroad locations.

STRENGTHEN

the commitment of colleges and universities to expand study abroad opportunities.

We urge Congress to **pass the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act** and make **meaningful study abroad opportunities a reality** for all college students.