

# The Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act

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 over 80% of college freshmen want to study abroad, yet only 10% of students study abroad before they graduate, and 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

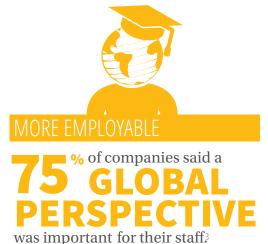


Four-year graduation rates are

18 HIGHER
for students who study abroad!



Studying abroad has been shown to **INCREASE** a student's GPA?



U.S. STUDY ABROAD CONTRIBUTES TO...

## The Nation





AMERICAN WORKERS

Jobs in the United States are tied to international trade4 86% BELIEVE BUSINESS WOULD INCREASE

if more staff had international experience?



#### GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Students who study abroad show GREATER IMPROVEMENTS IN LANGUAGE SKILLS:



Studying abroad develops a greater

APPRECIATION OF U.S. CULTURE

and less fear of others?

### What Americans Believe ...

\*\*OF VOTERS AGREE that our nation needs an education system that produces globally competent graduates who understand other cultures and languages.

% OF VOTERS AGREE that our nations is better off when more of our students are internationally educated and understand other cultures and languages?

that studying abroad, learning foreign languages, and learning about other cultures are essential to the American educational experiences

## Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act

**NAFSA** has long advocated for a new 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, introduced in the Senate by Senators Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), would create such a program with 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.

