

Support Our International Students

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UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON** SYSTEM

Challenges

- Our international students
 - ✓ Population +/-
 - ✓ OPT/ CPT Population
- Our operations/services/programs
 - ✓ Navigating the pandemic, how we adjusted with our office policies, procedures and operations.
 - ✓ New and maintaining existing services
 - ✓ New and updated programs for international students
- Obstacles
 - ✓ In our control
 - Policy and Procedural changes to navigate a pandemic
 - Additional scholarship/ funding
 - Workshops for improve ROI
 - ✓ Out of our control
 - State Department restrictions, No transparency to how the U.S. Embassies are working. Says something, does something else.
 - Travel restrictions
 - Lack of employment
 - Currency crash
 - Students taking a gap year

Current Trends

- Efforts of Recruitment and Enrollment
 - ✓ What is the SEVIS by the Numbers report telling us? We all are in this together.
 - ✓ What are the national and international trends?
 - ✓ What are we doing differently?
 - ✓ What changes can we expect for fall 2021?
- Fall 2021 projections
 - ✓ What are our fall numbers like?
 - ✓ Admissions funnel? Is it moving? Or stuck in the prospective to applied stage
 - ✓ Our international student concerns?
 - ✓ What are we hearing from our students
 - ✓ What are we hearing from our colleagues at other states
 - ✓ How is the third wave of COVID-19 in South Asian countries impacting our enrollment, will the 3rd/4th wave hit other countries?

Best Practices

- Programs
 - ✓ New programs, what worked and what didn't
- Services
 - ✓ Maintaining services and adapting to new services
 - ✓ New services which we are offering but didn't think outside of the box before to offer these services
- Communications
- Virtual platforms
 - ✓ Recruitment, Student services platforms
 - ✓ Virtual Internship platforms
- Collaborations
- Advocacy <https://www.nafsa.org/policy-and-advocacy>