



**COLORADO**  
Department of  
Higher Education

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## **Institute of International Education and StudyColorado celebrate increase in international student enrollment**

**DENVER - MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2014** - StudyColorado - in partnership with the Institute of International Education's Rocky Mountain Center in Denver - today announced a 7.1 percent increase in international student enrollment in Colorado in 2013-2014 compared to the previous academic year. The announcement comes on the first day of International Education Week (Nov 17-21, 2014), an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange in Colorado and worldwide.

Colorado enrolled 9,621 international students, compared to last year's 8,983, continuing steady growth in international student numbers, according to the Institute of International Education's [\*Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange\*](#).

"Coloradans know that this is the best place to study and live. We're happy to share our high quality educational institutions and our great quality of life with students from all over the world. And our own students benefit from a better understanding of the cultural and economic diversity they will face in the global marketplace," said Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia, who also serves as executive director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

Colorado has the greatest number of international students from China. Other leading countries of origin are Saudi Arabia, India, South Korea and Kuwait. StudyColorado Director Inta Morris attributed some of the growth in international student enrollment to increased recruiting efforts and international outreach by Colorado institutions, as well as the growing awareness of Colorado in the international marketplace. StudyColorado, established in July 2012, is supporting college and university recruiting efforts by marketing all of Colorado's higher education opportunities in regions around the world.

In addition to the cultural diversity they bring, international students have a significant economic impact on the campuses they attend and in the communities where they live. International student expenditures in Colorado in the 2013-2014 academic year totaled more than \$303 million - an 8 percent increase over the previous year, according to NAFSA, the Association of International Educators.

Campuses across the state are celebrating International Education Week with activities, such as cultural festivals and international film screenings. StudyColorado hosted a photo contest to commemorate International Education Week. International students were encouraged to “show their colors in Colorado” by submitting photos of themselves with their national flag or wearing national dress at a favorite location in Colorado. (Find entries and student contact information attached). Winning entries were submitted by students attending Fort Lewis College, the Colorado School of Mines and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

Hazuki Toyama, a Japanese student studying at Fort Lewis College, noted that, “Once I go outside, not only warm people but also [the] beautiful western atmosphere always heals my heart. Colorado even makes me think I don’t want to go back to Japan.”

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