



COLORADO

Department of  
Higher Education

Jessica Bralish, Communications Manager

Office: 303-974-2665, Mobile: 720-313-0179, [jessica.bralish@dhe.state.co.us](mailto:jessica.bralish@dhe.state.co.us)

---

### **StudyColorado announces big increase in international student enrollment in Colorado**

DENVER – November 16, 2015: StudyColorado today announced a significant increase in international student enrollment in Colorado in 2014-2015 compared to the previous academic year. The 12.3 percent increase -- the largest in more than five years and a greater percentage increase than the national increase -- suggests Colorado is gaining a reputation around the world for high quality higher education.

“Coloradans know that this is a great 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,” said Lt. Governor Joe Garcia, executive director of Colorado Department of Education. “And Colorado students learn from sharing a classroom or a dorm room with international students -- they gain an understanding of the cultural and economic diversity they will face in the global marketplace.”

Today’s announcement came on the first day of International Education Week (Nov 16-20, 2014), an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange in Colorado and worldwide. Data from Colorado institutions was compiled by the Institute of International Education as part of their annual Open Doors Report on International Education Exchange.

Colorado enrolled a total of 10,800 international students, compared to last year’s 9,621. As has been the case for some years, Colorado has the greatest number of international students from China. This year, Brazil made the top five countries of origin, along with India, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea.

StudyColorado Director Inta Morris attributes the overall growth in international student enrollment in part to the collaborative marketing and recruiting efforts of Colorado’s institutions.

“We’re pleased that so many students are finding opportunities at our many colleges and universities. Each campus offers a unique experience for international students, whether they choose to study at a rural campus with only a few thousand students or a larger campus in Denver, Boulder, or Fort Collins,” said Morris.

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 2014-2015 academic year totaled over \$350 million. This figure is an approximate 16 percent increase over the previous year.

**ABOUT STUDYCOLORADO:** Housed at the Colorado Department of Higher Education, StudyColorado is an initiative of the State of Colorado, its institutions of higher education, and the Colorado business community. StudyColorado's primary purpose is to support the internationalization goals of its member institutions. The 26 members are all accredited by the Higher Learning Commission or in the case of English language schools, by the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) or the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET).

###