

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
2016 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
& SCHOLAR REPORT**



INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

International Student & Scholar Report 2016

*The University of Alabama
Capstone International Center
International Services*

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I. Overview of International Services

International Services serves many roles, but its primary role is as the immigration advising office for all international students and scholars at the University of Alabama.

International Services is staffed by 7 full-time staff members, including a Director, Assistant Director, 2 International Student and Scholar Advisors, an Immigration Technician who maintains records and SEVIS reporting duties, a Sponsored Student and Services Assistant, and an Immigration Assistant who manages the front office.

In our role as international student visa sponsor, International Services coordinates with Undergraduate Admissions' international admission unit and with Graduate International Admissions to process F-1 I-20s and J-1 DS-2019s (the two student visa-types used by UA) for all incoming international students and provide each admitted student with advice and guidance on how to process a student visa and make preparations to enter the U.S.

Once international students arrive to UA, International Services' role switches to that of a compliance office, gathering copies of documents and contact information from each student, providing an extensive orientation with a primary focus on immigration regulatory issues and acculturation, and finally, monitoring all student course registration and on-campus employment to ensure students' compliance with student visa regulations as well as UA's compliance with our reporting duties to the Department of Homeland Security's US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

II. International Enrollment Highlights for Fall 2016

As of fall 2016, **International Services served 1303 active, enrolled international students**, of whom **278 were new, first-time students for Fall 2016 (52 new freshmen, 16 new transfer undergraduates, 12 new conditional undergrad and grad students, 40 new ELI students, 79 new doctoral students, 53 new master's students, 1 new Education Specialist student, and 25 new visiting/non-degree students).**

In addition to the 1303 active, enrolled international students served by International Services, there are an additional 173 recent graduates who remain on The University of Alabama's visa sponsorship while working on Optional Practical Training (OPT). Counting these two populations together, the total number of international students served by International Services is **1476**. The 1303 active, enrolled students match the reported figures from the census data provided by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment.

The 1303 active, enrolled international students come from 78 countries and regions of the world and represent 3.5% of the 37,665 students enrolled at The University of Alabama for fall 2016¹.

PLEASE NOTE: For reporting purposes, "international" is understood as a non-U.S. citizen, holding any visa status other than Legal Permanent Residency, Resident Alien, Asylee, or Refugee. Additionally, the student figures presented in this report will differ slightly from the official numbers of international students reported by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment. OIRA's count includes 9 additional students outside of the U.S. who are enrolled in Distance Learning.

At a total of 1476 (including OPT holders), UA hosted 182 fewer international students in Fall 2016 compared to Fall 2015. The University of Alabama saw its second decrease in overall international numbers, returning UA's enrollment to close to its Fall 2012 numbers.

The majority of the loss in enrollment was in undergraduate degree seeking students and in non-degree students. Undergraduate degree enrollment fell from 762 to 605 since Fall 2015 due to a number of factors, including: a smaller entering Freshman class; attrition of students especially from Freshman to Sophomore year; and graduating students. Additionally, 2015-16 was the last academic year for the Brazil Science Mobility Program (BSMP), leading to a sudden drop-off in enrollment in both the ELI program and undergraduate non-degree enrollment from Brazil.

¹ <http://ua.edu/quickfacts/demographics.html> & <http://oira.ua.edu/d/content/reports/enrollment-census>

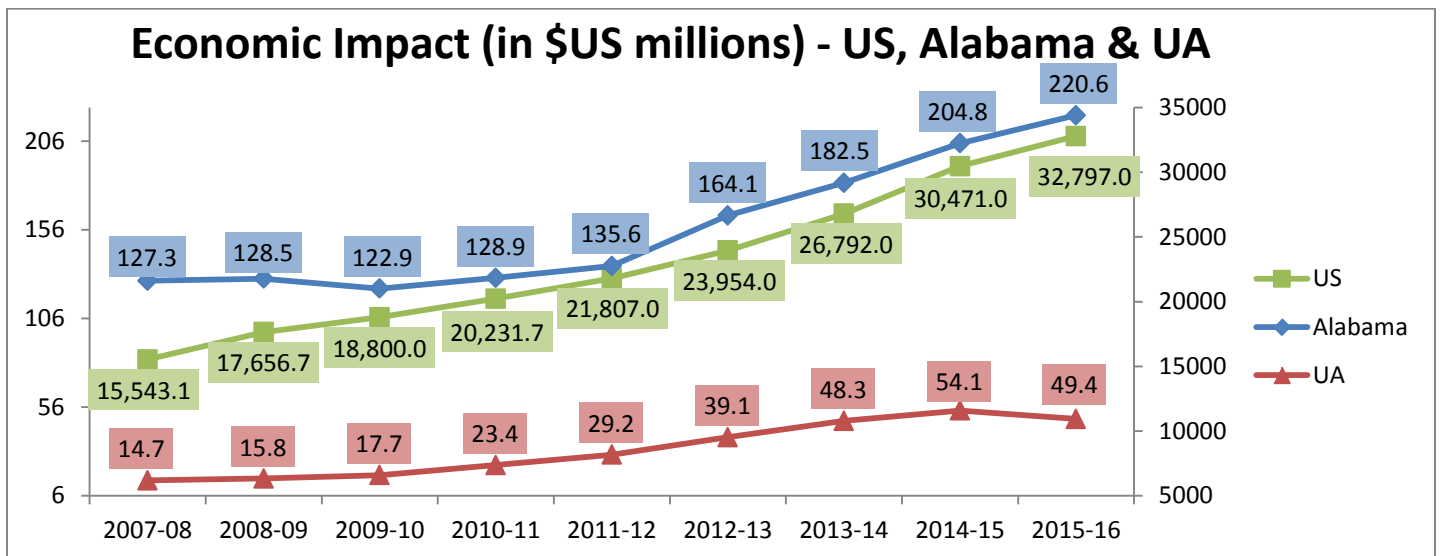
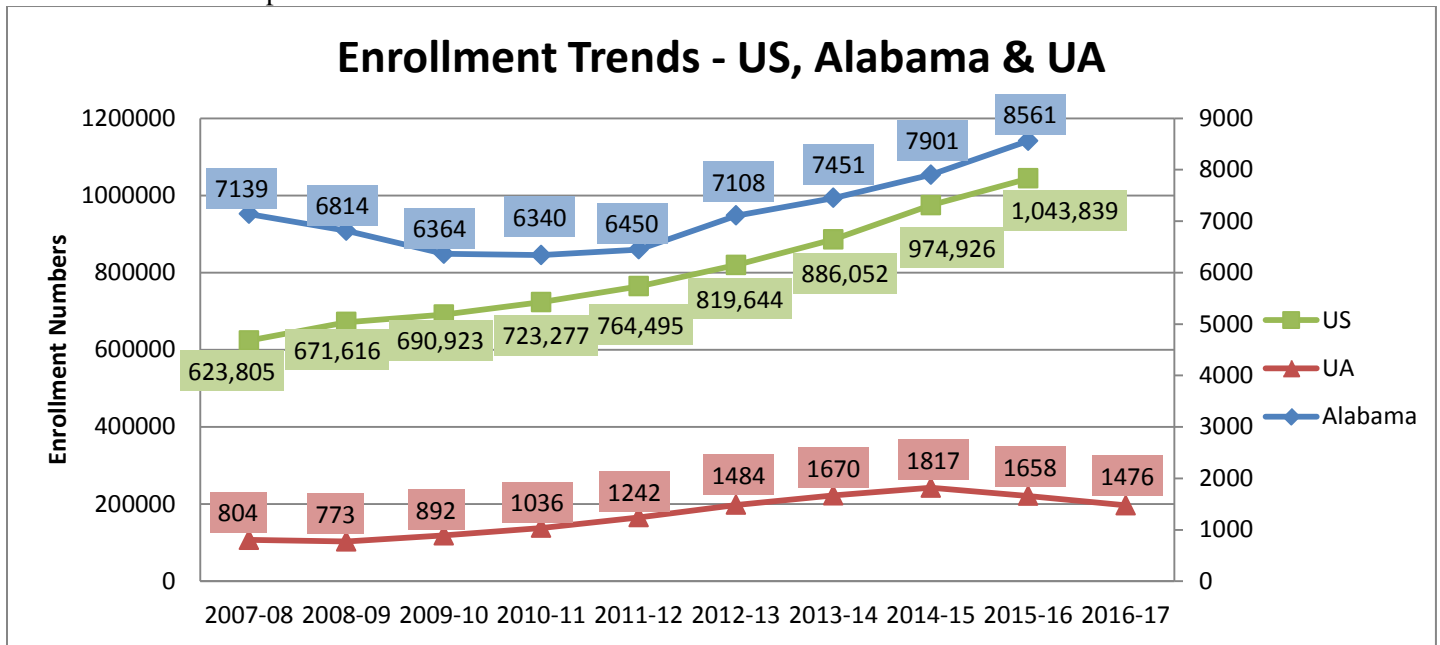
III. National and Local Trends - Enrollment and Financial Impact of International Students

In 2015/16, the **United States hosted 1,043,839 international students**; in the same year, **Alabama institutions of higher education enrolled 8561 international students**.²

The economic impact of the **1,043,839 international students** enrolled in 2015/16 was nearly **\$32.8 billion in contribution to the U.S. economy**, factoring in living expenses for students and their dependents, as well as tuition, books, fees and other education-related expenses.

In Alabama, the **7901 international students** enrolled in 2015/16 **contributed \$220,558,015 to the state economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.

Locally, the **1658 international students** at The University of Alabama in 2015/16 **contributed \$49.4 million to the local economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.³



2 IIE's Open Doors Report 2016 - <http://www.iie.org/Research-and-Publications/Open-Doors>

3 NAFSA's International Student Economic Value Tool:

http://www.nafsa.org/Explore_International_Education/Impact/Data_And_Statistics/NAFSA_International_Student_Economic_Value_Tool/#distData

IV. UA International Student Statistics

A. Breakdown of Fall Semester 2016 Student Numbers by Degree Level and Year
(Includes Recent Graduates on OPT):

DEGREE & LEVEL	Total
Undergraduate Students	605
<i>Freshman</i>	122
<i>Sophomore</i>	123
<i>Junior</i>	141
<i>Senior</i>	219
Graduate Students	549
<i>Master's</i>	157
<i>Doctoral</i>	388
<i>Professional</i>	3
<i>Educational Specialist</i>	1
English Language Institute	117
<i>ELI Only</i>	98
<i>Conditional Admits</i>	19
Non-Degree & Education Abroad Exchanges	32
<i>Non-Degree/Visiting Students</i>	11
<i>Study Abroad</i>	21
SUBTOTAL OF ACTIVE, ENROLLED STUDENTS	1303
OPT – Graduates on Optional Practical Training	173
TOTAL	1476

B. UA International Student Numbers 2006 - 2016

YEAR	UG	GRAD	ELI & NON-DEGREE	SUBTOTAL: ACTIVE STUDENTS	OPT	TOTAL W/ OPT	% TOTAL CHANGE
2006-07	196	433	124	753	24	777	- 10.9%
2007-08	206	436	85	727	77	804	+ 3.5%
2008-09	155	417	165	737	36	773	- 3.9%
2009-10	215	472	156	843	49	892	+ 15.4%
2010-11	336	472	175	983	53	1036	+ 16.1%
2011-12*	439	446	258	1143	99	1242	+ 19.9%
2012-13	652	459	266	1377	107	1484	+ 19.6%
2013-14	793	472	272	1537	133	1670	+ 12.5%
2014-15	797	502	381	1680	137	1817	+ 8.8%
2015-16	762	509	232	1503	155	1658	- 8.8%
2016-17	605	549	149	1303	173	1476	- 10.9%

*Prior to 2011/2012, conditionally admitted students were included with the undergraduate and graduate students rather than included with the ELI numbers.

XIV. International Scholars and Faculty by Department

Department	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Advertising & Public Relations		1		1
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	10	1	6	17
Alabama Innovation & Mentoring of Entrepreneurs (AIME)			2	2
Art			1	1
Biology	4	3	4	11
CCHS – School of Medicine	11	1		12
Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS)		5	1	6
Center for Advanced Vehicle Technology		1		1
Center for Green Manufacturing/Chemistry	2	1		3
Chemical & Biological Engineering	2	2	5	9
Chemistry	20	3	6	29
CIS - Communication and Information Science	3		1	4
Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering	13	3	18	34
Computer Science	7	1	5	13
Consumer Science/ CHES		1		1
Curriculum and Instruction		1		1
Economics, Finance & Legal Studies	13	2		15
Education Leadership, Policy, & Technology Studies	3			3
Ed Studies in Psych, Research Methods & Counseling	1	3		4
Electrical & Computer Engineering	10	1	19	30
English Language Institute	1			1
English Literature and TESL	4	1		5
Gender & Race Studies	1			1
Geological Sciences	5	2		7
History		2		2
Honors College	2			2
Human Nutrition & Hospitality Management		3		3
Information Systems, Statistics & Management Science	1	3	2	6
Information Technology		1		1
Institutional Research Assessment (OIRA)		1		1
Kinesiology		1		1
Law, School	1		2	3
Management and Marketing		2		2
Mathematics	5	5	2	12
Mechanical Engineering	7	1	9	17
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	5	1	11	17
MINT Center (Materials for Information Technology)	23	2	1	26
Modern Languages & Classics	2	5	1	8
Philosophy	1			1
Physics & Astronomy	6	4		10
Psychology		3	2	5
Religious Studies		2		2
Social Work	2	1		3
Special Education & Multiple Abilities		1		1
Telecommunication and Film		1		1
University Libraries		1		1
TOTAL	165	73	98	336