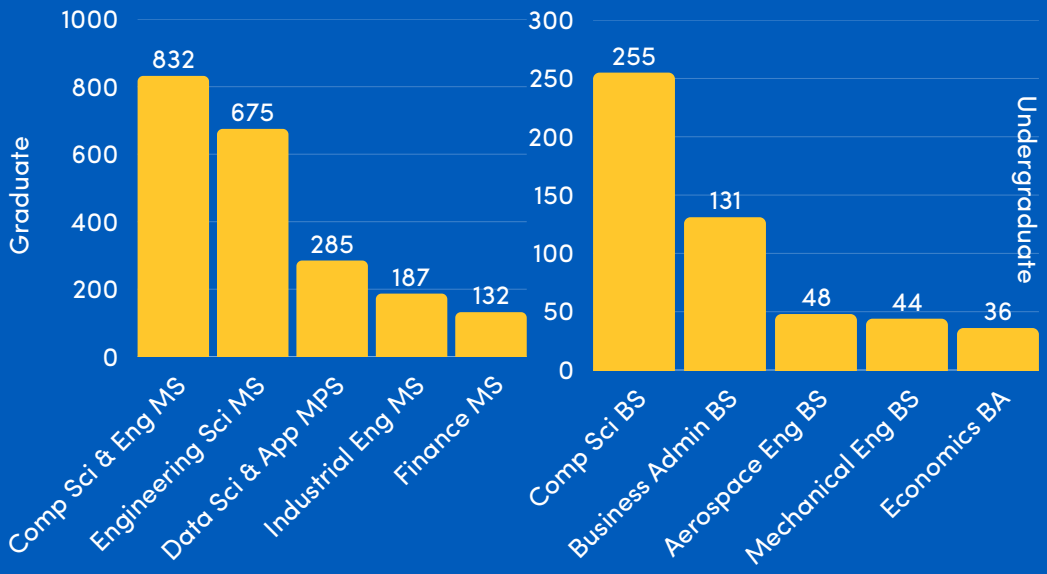
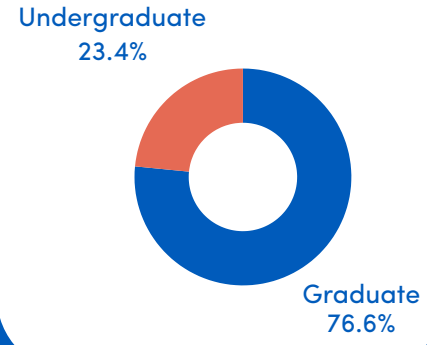
University at Buffalo
International Student Services
Office of International Education

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Top 5 Degree Programs

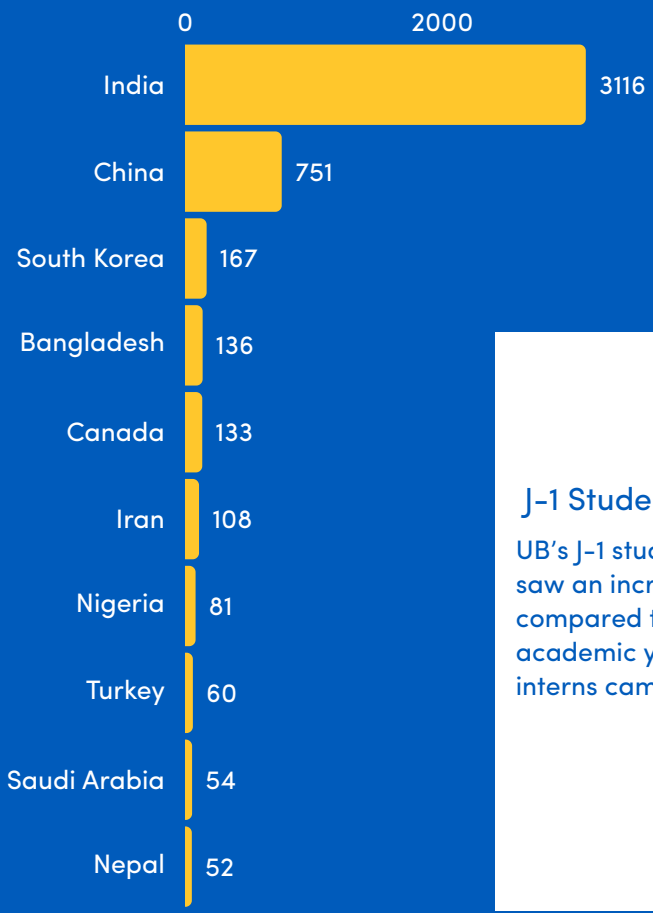


A total of 5,294 international students were enrolled across the Summer 2024, Fall 2024, Winter 2025 & Spring 2025 semesters.

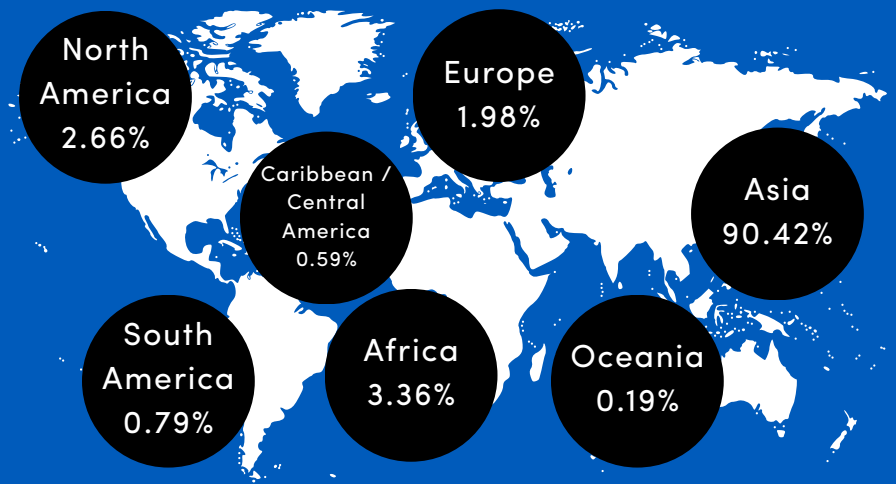


Top 10 Countries by Enrollment

India, China, and South Korea continue to top our enrollment, while 636 students hail from 96 other countries beyond the top 10.

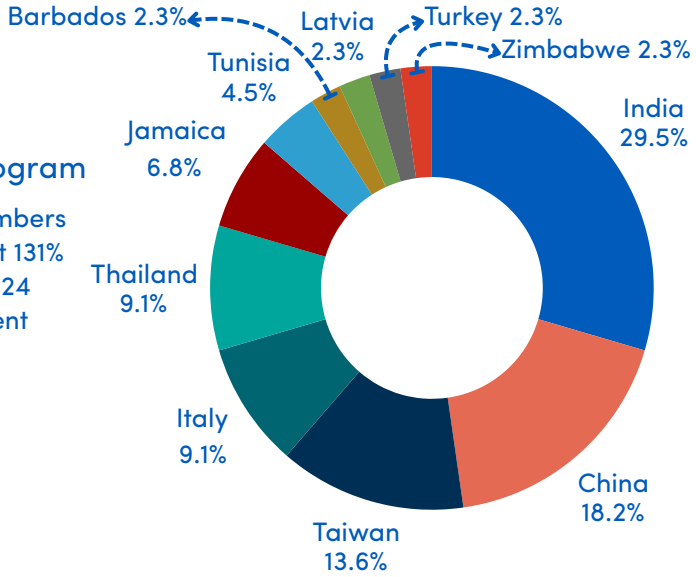


International students represent a total of 106 countries.



J-1 Student Intern Program

UB's J-1 student intern numbers saw an increase of almost 131% compared to the 2023-2024 academic year. The student interns came from:



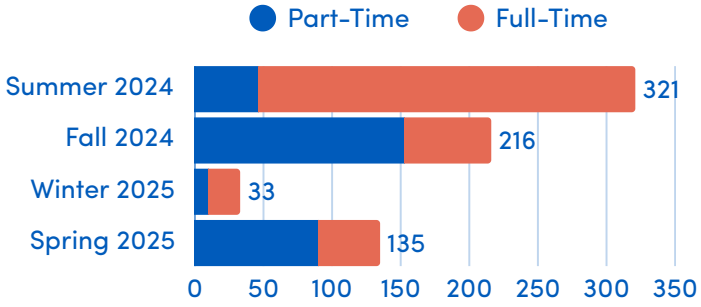
210 TALBERT HALL
BUFFALO, NY 14260

716-645-2258

ISS@BUFFALO.EDU

Students Approved For Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) is a type of work authorization that allows F-1 students to complete off-campus training experiences in the student's field of study. Students on CPT must be enrolled in an appropriate corresponding internship or research course and must maintain a full course of study during their CPT authorization.



From Fortune 500 companies to local innovators, students worked with employers across the country.

57% worked full-time roles

300+ employers hired our students

41% of employers were based in WNY

37% of employers were located in Erie County

50% of graduate students and 71% of undergraduate students were employed by WNY employers

Top 5 CPT Employers

Graduates

ROSWELL PARK COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

Flow

EITACIES Enterprise Information Technology Edge

amazon

ECMC

Undergraduates

QBC

Harmac MEDICAL PRODUCTS

RICH'S

Kaleida Health

Cyto Cybernetics

Students on Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Optional Practical Training (OPT) is an F-1 student benefit granted by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) that allows students to work off-campus in a job related to their major to supplement their academic experience with practical experience. These are typically students who have completed their programs and are no longer enrolled as tuition or fee-paying students.

Post-Completion

After graduation
Duration: 12 months

OPT STEM Extension

STEM majors only
After Post-OPT
Duration: 24 months

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Student Support by the Numbers

- Processed 29,269 E-Forms
- Sent 45,776 E-Mails
- Answered 3,833 Phone Calls
- Assisted 4,579 students at our Front Desk
- Met with 6,235 students for 1-on-1 Advising

Steven L. Shaw Memorial International Student Emergency Fund

The Office of International Education and the broader UB community want to ensure that international students, regardless of where they're from, have the financial support they need during times of crisis and emergency. This fund provides emergency assistance to international students in financial distress.

There were 187 total applications for assistance during Fall 2024 and Spring 2025.

25 students were awarded emergency funds:

- 5 Bachelor's
- 12 Master's
- 8 Doctoral

The average approved award was $640.

ISS Trips

Goals: Cultural Learning, Social Connections

5 Trips

347 Students

4.7 Stars Average Rating

Niagara Falls

Holiday Valley Skiing

Zoar Valley River Rafting

Letchworth State Park

Maple Sugar Festival

Letchworth State Park: Our #1 trip three years running!

Academic Success Workshops

Goals: Navigating U.S. Educational Norms, On-Campus Resources, Study & Research Tips

"I think all the sessions are wonderful, and something very helpful for me in my first semester."

"A lot of the information shared during the workshop helped me navigate how I can manage my academic life well."

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International Student Barometer (ISB) Survey Highlights

The ISB is a globally recognized bench-marking tool designed to measure the experiences and satisfaction of international students. It provides universities with insights into various aspects of international student life. This survey was sent out in Fall 2024 to all enrolled international students and had a response rate of 33.45%. All percentages below reflect the proportion of respondents who answered each question.

- Overall experience - 92% satisfaction
- Academic - 86% Undergraduates / 90% Graduates good value for money
- Career - 92% feel prepared
- Arrival* - 90% Undergraduates / 94% Graduates rated positively
- Support Services* - 94% satisfaction
- Community - 92% happy with life at UB, 91% feel welcomed

"The UB culture is unparalleled, the marketing for international students is top-notch, the staff is generally empathetic towards students' concerns, and they prioritize students' welfare and success above else."

"The University is great for research and provides a collaborative environment. It is inclusive and diverse. As an international student, it was easy for me to integrate. I have been met with respect, support and kindness."

International Student Advisory Council (ISAC)

The International Student Advisory Council brings together a diverse representation of international students at the University at Buffalo to communicate the needs and challenges of international students. Board members are volunteer student leaders who provide a direct line of communication between international students, International Student Services, and campus partners in support of the international student experience at the University at Buffalo.

- 15 Students
- 12 Majors
- 9 Countries
- 7 Bachelors
- 3 Masters
- 5 Doctoral

STUDENT CONNECTIONS

Council members served as panelists at our International Student Welcome Ceremonies.

ADVOCACY

Yuya Yamamoto (Ph.D., Japan) met with staff from different NYS senator and representative offices in Washington, D.C. for NAFSA's Advocacy Day.