

A decorative vertical pattern on the left side of the page, composed of overlapping geometric shapes in shades of green, teal, orange, brown, and grey.

AACSB's Position: Championing Student Mobility and Internationalization in Business Education



Executive Summary

AACSB International (AACSB) affirms its commitment to fostering student mobility and internationalization in business education. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the need for culturally competent, globally aware business leaders has never been more critical. AACSB advocates for policies which enhance the global flow of students and enrich the educational offerings of our member institutions.

Introduction

Globalization has irrevocably changed the landscape of business education. AACSB recognizes that to prepare the next generation of business leaders for the challenges of a diverse and interconnected world, business schools must embrace internationalization not just as a feature of their programs but as a fundamental aspect of their educational mission. This position paper outlines AACSB's vision and recommendations for enhancing student mobility and internationalization among our member institutions.

AACSB's Position

AACSB is a strong advocate for student mobility and internationalization in business education. We believe that fostering globally connected learning environments enhances cultural intelligence, drives innovation, and promotes cross-cultural understanding and collaboration. Our position is rooted in the significant value that student mobility and internationalization bring to both the business community and the broader global society.



The Importance of Student Mobility and Internationalization

- **Cultural Competence:** In today's global market, business leaders must navigate a complex array of cultural contexts. International exposure equips students with critical soft skills, including adaptability, cultural sensitivity, and communication, that are essential in a multicultural business environment.
- **Innovative Problem Solving:** Diverse educational experiences foster creativity and innovation. Students who study abroad gain new perspectives and approaches to problem-solving, benefiting their home institutions and future workplaces.
- **Network Expansion:** International experiences expand professional networks. These networks can become invaluable resources for students, faculty, and the institutions themselves, opening doors to new research, collaboration, and business opportunities.
- **Economic Contribution:** International students contribute significantly to host countries' economies through tuition fees, living expenses, and workforce participation.

AACSB's Role and Initiatives

As a thought leader in business education, AACSB leads by example through the following initiatives:

- **Facilitating Global Partnerships:** AACSB will continue to foster partnerships among business schools worldwide, encouraging collaborative programs, joint degrees, and exchange opportunities that enhance academic and cultural exchange. We unite with our global to mitigate barriers and create opportunities to advance business education.
- **Developing Best Practices:** AACSB commits to researching and sharing best practices for integrating internationalization into curriculum development, faculty recruitment, and student services.
- **Advocacy and Support:** We advocate for policies that facilitate student mobility, such as visa flexibility, scholarship funding, and quality assurance.

Model National Policies

Several countries are recognized for their policies that support the global flow of students, making international education more accessible and appealing.

- **Germany:** Germany offers numerous incentives for international students, including no tuition fees at public universities and post-study work opportunities. The country has robust support systems in place to help international students integrate into the academic and cultural life.
- **Canada:** Canada provides various pathways for student visas and post-graduation work permits (PGWP), allowing students to work in the country for up to three years after graduation.
- **Australia:** Australia has a streamlined visa process and post-study work rights for international students, depending on their qualifications and the duration of their studies. The country's policies are designed to attract skilled graduates to stay and work in Australia. Student Visa (Subclass 500): This visa allows students to live and study in Australia in a recognized full-time course.
- **Netherlands:** The Netherlands offers a one-year "orientation year" visa for international graduates, allowing them to stay and look for work after their studies. This is part of a broader strategy to retain educated individuals to contribute to the economy.
- **Sweden:** Sweden provides scholarships to non-EU/EEA students and allows them to stay for a period after graduation to seek employment. Sweden's universities are also highly integrated into international networks, encouraging global research and education collaborations.



Recommendations for Member Institutions

- **Integrate Internationalization:** Incorporate international case studies, intercultural training, and global economic perspectives into program offerings to ensure all students benefit from global insights, regardless of their ability to travel abroad.
- **Support Structures:** Establish robust support systems for inbound and outbound mobility students, including pre-departure training, re-entry programs, and career advising that emphasizes international opportunities.
- **Leverage Technology:** Utilize technology to create virtual international experiences and collaborations, ensuring internationalization is accessible to all students.

AACSB is dedicated to leading the charge in transforming business education through enhanced student mobility and internationalization. By supporting our member institutions in these endeavors, we enrich the learning experiences of students and strengthen the impact of global business education networks. Together, we can prepare a new generation of business leaders who are adept at navigating global markets and are committed to fostering inclusive and sustainable business practices worldwide.

Call to Action

We encourage all AACSB member institutions to engage with us in this mission, to share their insights and innovations, and to help shape the future of global business education. Through collaborative effort, commitment, and creativity, we can achieve a truly internationalized educational landscape.

Learn more at aacsbs.org/student-mobility