

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION


Our country benefits when international faculty and students learn, teach, and research on our shores. Their presence enriches our campuses and state with diverse perspectives which ensure that we continue to be a leading academic force around the world. Our nation's history has proven that education and service are essential components to sustaining communities and driving economic prosperity by cultivating a dynamic workforce. In Washington, all our students, regardless of their residency or immigration status, are invaluable to the teaching we provide in our classrooms, the research we perform in our labs, and the discoveries we make across disciplines. These students and those who came before them are not strangers on our campuses, communities, and homes; they are our neighbors, co-workers, friends, and our family. They are the very fabric of who we are.

The internalization of our campuses extends to Washingtonians. Our students immerse themselves in other countries to learn in new environments, integrating learning with a new cultural context. The opportunity to experience and explore through study abroad, international internships, and exchanges strengthens intercultural skills and cultural humility, respect and awareness of different cultural contexts and viewpoints and collaboration with a diverse community.

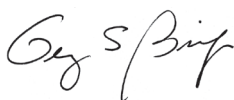
We, Washington's public four-year presidents, pledge our unyielding commitment to welcoming all students to our campuses, and to advocate to reduce barriers for students regardless of residency or immigration status. We remain united in our dedication to recognize and celebrate the immense benefit our international students bring to our classrooms, labs and communities.



James Gaudino
President, Central Washington University



David May
Interim President, Eastern Washington University



George Bridges
President, The Evergreen State College



Ana Mari Cauce
President, University of Washington



Kirk Schulz
President, Washington State University



Sabah Randhawa
President, Western Washington University