INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILE
MY JOURNEY TO TOWSON UNIVERSITY (MD)

International students enrich our campuses, communities, and country. College admission counselors make an impact on their journey, helping students navigate the many steps to accessing education in the United States.

Recent policies, such as the travel ban and extreme vetting—and the growing sense that America’s schools are unsafe—are negatively impacting international students’ interest in studying here. These influences threaten our standing as the top destination for them—and the academic, cultural and economic contributions they bring.

Support policies that:
• Promote international student mobility
• Ensure ethical treatment of all students in the recruitment process
• Improve access to college counseling

Learn more at nacacnet.org/PolicyInitiatives.

MEET DANIEL PIMBI

• Junior from Democratic Republic of the Congo studying physics at Towson University.
• President of the International Student Association focused on bridging the gap between international and American students.

Why did you choose to study in the US?
I chose to study in the US because I wanted to have new experiences different from my home country. I worked with a college counselor based in the US who was very knowledgeable about the many college and university options available to me.

What was your biggest challenge in applying to or enrolling at a US university?
There was a lot of uncertainty and anxiety around the visa application process. All of my friends with whom I graduated high school did not get a visa to study in the US.

International Students’ Impact on Maryland

In Maryland, 19,671 international students create or support 8,667 jobs and contribute $717 million to the economy (NAFSA International Student Economic Value Tool).

The 2017–18 academic year witnessed a 6.6 percent decline in enrollment of new international students to the US (IIE International Student Enrollment Hot Topics Survey). In Maryland, that decline would translate into nearly 1,300 fewer international students.