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 MARIA CAMILA AFANADOR

• Junior from Colombia studying psychology and sociology at Loyola University Chicago.
• Works on campus and is a member of psychology club and the marine animal advocate club.
• Through her sorority, she volunteers on campus and in the community.

Why did you choose to study in the US?
I wanted to expand my horizons and see what the world has to offer me.

How did your college counselor help you find your best fit college?
My college counselor helped me define my priorities and see where I could best achieve my goals.

International Students’ Impact on Illinois

In Illinois, 53,362 international students create or support 24,330 jobs and contribute $1.8 billion 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 Illinois, that decline would translate into over 3,500 fewer international students.