

Proposal to Protect American Classrooms, Capacity and Taxpayer-Supported Higher Education

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Purpose

American universities should first ensure that American students have meaningful access to the classrooms, educational resources, facilities, and opportunities supported by American taxpayers and public institutions.

International education can remain an important part of higher education. However, universities should develop models that allow global participation without placing unnecessary pressure on finite physical classroom capacity or requiring American students to compete for limited educational space within institutions supported substantially by American public resources.

Protect the American Classroom

The physical classroom should remain available to American students who depend upon American colleges and universities for their education.

Universities operate within communities, states, and a national system that provides substantial public support through taxpayer funding, government grants, publicly supported infrastructure, student financial aid, and other resources. When physical classroom space, housing, laboratories, and other facilities are limited, universities should account for the educational needs of the American population that those institutions are established to serve.

This proposal would therefore encourage universities to establish a clear distinction between **physical campus capacity** and **global academic participation**.

Move Global Enrollment Online Where Appropriate

International students and global academic participants could continue taking courses through high-quality online programs.

This would allow universities to maintain international academic relationships while reducing the amount of physical classroom capacity required for international enrollment. It would also allow universities to expand their global reach without expanding the number of international students occupying classrooms, residential facilities, and other limited physical resources.

Online education would therefore become a mechanism for expanding global educational access while preserving physical capacity on American campuses.

Give American Students Greater Access to Physical Classrooms

When a university has limited classroom capacity, the institution should first determine whether American students have adequate access to the courses and facilities they need.

This includes consideration of:

- classroom availability;
- course enrollment limits;
- university housing;
- laboratories;
- libraries;
- student services;
- public university facilities;
- state-supported infrastructure;
- taxpayer-supported financial assistance; and
- the availability of required courses for American students.

Universities should not expand physical enrollment indefinitely without considering whether the existing student population has sufficient access to these resources.

Protect the Value of Taxpayer Support

American taxpayers contribute to higher education in numerous ways. Public universities receive direct governmental funding, while universities often benefit from federal research funding, government grants, tax advantages, public infrastructure, student financial-aid programs, and other forms of public support.

The proposal is therefore based on a straightforward principle: **publicly supported educational capacity should remain meaningfully accessible to the public that supports it.**

This does not require ending international education or international academic relationships. It requires universities to account for the finite nature of physical educational resources and the interests of the American students who rely upon those institutions.

International Students and Global Education

International students could continue participating in American higher education through online programs, exchange programs, graduate research, and other educational arrangements.

The distinction would be between **international participation** and **physical classroom capacity**.

Where an international course or program can be provided online without diminishing educational quality, universities should have the option of delivering that program online. This would allow students around the world to participate while preserving physical classroom capacity for students who need access to American campuses.

End Demographic Engineering in University Enrollment

University enrollment should not be used as an instrument for deliberately engineering the demographic composition of American communities.

Students should be treated as individuals under applicable law. Universities should not use racial classifications as a substitute for genuine educational access, and policies concerning admissions, enrollment, scholarships, housing, and classroom access should comply with federal and state civil-rights requirements.

The objective should be equal access to education and the preservation of individual choice rather than demographic manipulation.

National-Security Considerations

Universities should also maintain appropriate safeguards concerning foreign-government relationships, foreign funding, sensitive research, export-controlled technology, and other legitimate national-security concerns.

International enrollment should not automatically be treated as a security threat. At the same time, universities should have transparent procedures for identifying and addressing documented conflicts of interest, undisclosed foreign-government relationships, restricted research access, and other legitimate security concerns.

Sensitive university facilities and research programs should receive appropriate protections regardless of the nationality of the individual involved.

A Two-System Approach

This proposal would establish two complementary forms of participation:

American Physical Campus

American students would retain meaningful access to the physical classrooms, facilities, housing, laboratories, and educational resources available at American universities.

Global Online Education

International students and globally oriented programs could continue participating through online education and other arrangements that do not require the same level of physical campus capacity.

This approach would allow American universities to remain internationally connected while recognizing that physical classrooms are finite resources.

Principle of Educational Choice

An American student should have the freedom to attend an American university and have meaningful access to its physical educational resources.

An American student who wants an international education should have the freedom to pursue one. An American student who wants to remain within a local community should have the same freedom.

International students should likewise have opportunities to participate in American education, including through online programs where appropriate.

The underlying principle is **choice, capacity, and accountability**.

American universities can remain connected to the world while maintaining a clear responsibility to the American students, taxpayers, and communities that support them.

Proposed University Policy

Universities should therefore consider:

1. **Protecting adequate physical classroom capacity for American students.**
2. **Expanding online delivery of global programs where educationally appropriate.**
3. **Separating global participation from unnecessary consumption of finite physical campus resources.**
4. **Evaluating enrollment in relation to available classrooms, housing, laboratories, and other facilities.**
5. **Providing greater transparency regarding public funding and the use of taxpayer-supported resources.**
6. **Ensuring that American students have meaningful access to the institutions and resources supported by public funds.**
7. **Ending the use of racial classifications and demographic engineering to determine educational opportunity, consistent with applicable law.**
8. **Maintaining appropriate safeguards for sensitive research and legitimate national-security concerns.**
9. **Preserving international academic relationships through online education and other lawful programs.**
10. **Giving students the freedom to determine whether they want a primarily local American educational experience or a globally oriented one.**

Core Principle

American classrooms should be kept American.

American universities should remain available internationally, without allowing global enrollment to consume physical educational capacity that American students cannot access.

The objective is to protect the American classroom, preserve the value of taxpayer-supported educational resources, and give students greater freedom to determine how they participate in higher education.