FAST FACTS

International students at colleges and universities contributed an estimated $3.215 billion to the California economy in the 2011–12 academic year.

4,639 citizen diplomats and host families in California volunteered to welcome international students, scholars, and visitors in their homes and communities.

31,122 citizens of foreign countries participated in ECA’s academic, youth, professional, and cultural exchange programs in California.

3,130 Californians and foreign visitors participated in ECA’s academic, youth, professional, and cultural exchange programs in foreign countries.

California is ranked #1 in the U.S. for the number of international students in its colleges and universities.

California universities with the most foreign students


Leading places of origin for foreign students in California during 2011–12


Notable ECA Alumni

**Juan Vargas**
U.S. Representative for California’s 51st District, (American Council of Young Political Leaders, 1994)

**Kevin McCarthy**

**Gaddi Holguin Vasquez**
Director of the Peace Corps, 2002–06 (American Council of Young Political Leaders, 1994; 1999)

**Ed Royce**
U.S. Representative for California’s 40th Congressional District, 2003–Present (American Council of Young Political Leaders, 1984)

**George Arthur Akerlof**
Nobel Prize in Economics, 2001 (Fulbright Scholar Program, 1967)

**Jim Costa**
U.S. Representative for California’s 16th Congressional District, 2005–Present (American Council of Young Political Leaders, 1982; 1987)

**Carol Padden**
MacArthur “Genius” Grant for Sign Language Linguistics, 2010 (Fulbright Scholar, 2000)

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