

Reporting Study Abroad Students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

National Center for Education Statistics at IES

Purpose: In this reporting tip, you will find information on reporting study abroad students in IPEDS survey components.

Description: Whether to include study abroad students in IPEDS survey components depends on the survey component and the role of the institution where the student is enrolled for credit. How an institution reports a study abroad student depends on the type of institution where the student is enrolled for credit: home institution or host institution. The table below explains when an institution should report study abroad students in eight (8) IPEDS survey components. The institution where the student is seeking the degree or certificate is the home institution. The institution where the student is taking credit but not seeking a degree or certificate is the host institution. If a student is seeking a degree or certificate at an institution but taking classes a location outside of the U.S., then the data on the student is reported in IPEDS survey components based on the information in the home institution column of the table. If a student is visiting and taking courses for credit at an institution outside the U.S., but not seeking a degree or certificate, then the data on the student is reported in IPEDS survey components based on the information in the host institution column of the table.

Key Terms			
Home institution – the location where the student is seeking a degree or certificate, including campuses of U.S. institutions located outside the U.S.			
Host institution – the location, typically outside the U.S., where the student is visiting and taking courses for credit but not seeking a degree or certificate.			
Survey component	Role of the U.S. institution where the student is enrolled for credit		Reporting Reminders:
	Home institution	Host institution	
Fall Enrollment	Include as degree/certificate-seeking only if student enrolled for credit or the institution provides instructional resources (classroom, instructors) at the non-U.S. location Include in retention calculations (count freshman study abroad students in first-time cohort and sophomore study abroad students in retained cohort)	Include as non-degree/non-certificate-seeking Exclude from retention calculations	Exclude students studying abroad if their enrollment at the "home" institution is only an administrative record and the fee is nominal. For a student to be reported by either the home or the host institution, the student must be enrolled for credit at that institution. Study abroad students can include U.S. students taking courses abroad or non-U.S. Residents taking courses at a U.S. institution. Non-U.S. Residents who are not seeking a degree or certificate at a U.S. institution, but only taking coursework at a host institution are not counted in any IPEDS survey components.
12-month Enrollment	Include if student is enrolled for credit or if the institution provides instructional resource (classroom, instructors) at the non-U.S. location	Include as non-degree/non-certificate-seeking	
Graduation Rates and Graduation Rates 200%	Include in full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate cohort and completions	Exclude from GR, GR200, and completions	
Outcome Measures	Include in cohorts and outcomes	Exclude from cohorts and outcomes	
Institutional Characteristics	Exclude from cost of attendance	Exclude from cost of attendance	
Student Financial Aid	Exclude from cost of attendance	Exclude from cost of attendance	
Finance	Include in FTE and scholarships/fellowships processed by the institution	Include in FTE and scholarships/fellowships processed by the institution	

To learn more about IPEDS go to: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data/survey-components>

For help submitting data to IPEDS contact the Help Desk at (877) 225-2568 or send an email to: ipedshelp@rti.org

For questions about using IPEDS data and data tools call (866) 558-0658 or send an email to: ipedsstools@rti.org