Since its founding in 1919, the Institute of International Education (IIE) has conducted an annual census of international students and scholars in the United States. These findings are released in the *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange (Open Doors)*, and this year’s *Open Doors* data confirms that **UNC Charlotte ranks second within UNC System schools in hosting the largest population of international students.**

The Office of International Programs participates in the *Open Doors* survey annually and provides up-to-date statistics related to the richness of our on-campus international student and scholar population for inclusion in the IIE report.

UNC Charlotte ranks in the top 100 of institutions nationally who are hosting international students, positioned at number 86 of all institutions awarding baccalaureate degrees. UNC Charlotte hosted 2,980 students and scholars (including 1,300 on Optional Practical Training) in the reporting period. UNC Charlotte has ranked in the top 100 for five consecutive years and has systematically gained ground in the rankings. In the most recent report, UNC Charlotte outranks all UNC System schools based on the number of international students hosted with the exception of North Carolina State University.
The most recent IIE results provide a wealth of information on international students studying and international scholars conducting research in the United States in the 2019/20 academic and calendar years. The study is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. government.

1,075,496 international students studied in the U.S. in 2019/2020, a decrease of 1.8 percent over the prior academic year. This is the first drop in international student and scholar totals since 2005/2006, and can be attributed in part to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The International Student and Scholar Office within the Office of International Programs provides information, services and programs enabling international students and visiting scholars to achieve their individual educational and personal goals and foster an appreciation for a culturally diverse learning environment in the larger University community.