Retaining International Students:
Pathway to Silicon Valley

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To immigrate is an entrepreneurial act

--Ed Roberts, Founder
MIT Entrepreneurship Center
HIGH-TECH STARTUPS

Created 25% of all high-tech firms nationally from 1995-2005

- 52% of Silicon Valley’s high-tech firms from 1995-2005
- 32.8% of Michigan’s high-tech firms (ranking Michigan #3 after CA and NJ and making them six times as likely to create a high-tech firm)
- 2012 update placed Ohio’s numbers at 23% (ranking the state 9th in the nation)

---Duke University and UC-Berkeley
Account for 25% of all venture-backed firms that have had public offerings 1995-2005

National Venture Capital Association
BY 2018, THE U.S. WILL FACE A PROJECTED SHORTFALL OF 230,000 STEM WORKERS

550,000 STEM workers\(^1\)

780,000 STEM jobs\(^2\)

2,000 STEM DEGREE HOLDERS

2,000 UNFILLED STEM POSITIONS

International students are 3 times (38% vs. 14%) as likely to major in STEM fields.

Immigrants make up:

- 50% of all new U.S. Ph.D.s in engineering;
- 45% of all new U.S. Ph.D.s in life sciences, physical sciences, and computer sciences;
- 40% of all new U.S. master degrees in computer sciences, physical sciences, and engineering; and
- 25% of all practicing physicians.
IMMIGRANTS CREATE JOBS FOR U.S. WORKERS

Every Foreign STEM Worker With an Advanced U.S. Degree Creates 2.62 American Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Students in Michigan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of International Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Contribution to State Economy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>7,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan - Ann Arbor</td>
<td>7,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>2,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Tech</td>
<td>1,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Michigan University</td>
<td>1,831</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Michigan University</td>
<td>1,020</td>
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• Michigan colleges and universities host more than 25,500 international students who contribute more than $750 million to Michigan’s economy each year.
• In at least one methodology, Michigan ranks last (or among the last) of the 50 states in its ability to attract young people aged 25-34. Student retention efforts are critical on all levels, including international students, especially if, as the data suggests, they are very willing to stay in Michigan if provided the legal opportunity to do so.
• Over the last decade, Michigan’s immigrants created nearly one-third of all the new high-tech businesses in Michigan—at a rate six times the rest of the population and ranking Michigan third in the country.
• International students are the pathway to becoming the Silicon Valley of the Midwest.
• The Global Talent Retention Initiative was launched to retain international students in Michigan after their graduation. It is the first and only such program in the nation.