



Flywire Survey Reveals Students Optimistic About International Education

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Global demand for education stronger than ever with 63% of students surveyed still interested in studying abroad

86% of students need help affording education expenses according to the new report, [Passport to Higher Education: A Global Payments Study](#), from Flywire Corporation (Nasdaq: FLYW). Despite these challenges, students are eager to get back on campus, with the majority (51%) saying in-person learning is the most fulfilling when compared to hybrid and remote learning.

Flywire, a global payments enablement and software company, released its global survey research of more than 1,000 college students in the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and China, which uncovered major trends as the education sector grapples with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on international education.

"As vaccinations increase worldwide, and students prepare for the return of in-person learning in the fall, institutions can play a significant role in providing a fulfilling and affordable experience that all students deserve," said Sharon Butler, Executive Vice President of Education at Flywire.

Students Optimistic About International Education

Optimism around international education offers a promising outlook on the bounce back of studying abroad. Over half of students (63%) are still interested in studying internationally as their biggest motivations for doing so are the opportunity for new cultural experiences (47%), the academic reputations of schools abroad (43%), on-campus experience (37%) and value for the cost (38%).

That said, over half (56%) of all students feel the process of obtaining a student visa in the next year will change due to the shifting global political climate. Undergraduates in the U.K. (65%) and U.S. (61%) are the most likely to expect a change – significantly more so than their counterparts in Canada (49%) and China (48%).

Flexible Payment Options and Efficient Payment Processes Can Improve Experience

The political climate can also have an impact on relieving student debt, an issue largely facing students in the U.S. where the majority (89%) of those expected to pay off their student loans said their debt has prevented or delayed them from pursuing opportunities such as home buying, travel and continuing education. Institutions can begin to tackle affordability by implementing payment plans, as seven in ten students say the option to merely pay their educational bills in installments would provide much needed relief.

The process of making tuition payments should also not be overlooked with 72% of students stating that it has become a significant stressor because of the pandemic. Although the stress is largely attributed to financial difficulties (41%), over a quarter (28%) say it's driven by unclear processes from their institution followed by the lack of online payment options (20%).

"With over three in four students stating that access to a simplified payment process would improve their higher education experience, institutions can take an active role in alleviating some of the stress for students paying for university," explained Butler. "By implementing flexible payment options and online payment methods, international and domestic students can spend more time focusing on getting the most out of their education and preparing for life outside of the classroom."

Survey Methodology

Flywire commissioned Engine Insights to conduct a survey of adults 18 years of age or older in five countries to understand the role payments play in their pursuit of higher education. This survey is among 1,010 students, with 202 from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and China. This survey was conducted online between March 12 and 18, 2021.

About Flywire

Flywire Corporation (Nasdaq: FLYW) is a global payments enablement and software company. Flywire combines its proprietary global payments network, next-gen payments platform and vertical-specific software to deliver the most important and complex payments for its clients and their customers.

Flywire leverages its vertical-specific software and payments technology to deeply embed within the existing A/R workflows for its clients across the education, healthcare and travel vertical markets, as well as in key B2B industries. Flywire also integrates with leading ERP systems, so organizations can optimize the payment experience for their customers while eliminating operational challenges.

Flywire supports 2,250+ clients with diverse payment methods in more than 130 currencies across 240 countries and territories around the world. The company is headquartered in Boston, MA, USA with global offices. For more information, visit www.flywire.com. Follow Flywire on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

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