

Guidance for Determining Developing vs Non-Developing Country Status for International Student Applicants

Purpose: To provide procedures for determining whether International student applicants qualify for developing country discount.

Background: In 2005, the Department of Education set forth a Per Capita Average Income threshold of \$5345 for determining whether an applicant's country is developing or non-developing. Due to inflationary factors, that threshold is updated annually in current dollars.

Process: By October 31 of each year, the NTID Finance and Budget Office will provide an updated threshold amount using the referenced calculator for developing vs non-developing countries. An updated listing of World Bank GNI Per Capita in US dollars by country will be compared to the updated threshold. The list of developing and non-developing countries will be updated as necessary for any changes. If the GNI Per Capita is equal to or below the threshold, the country will be identified as developing and applicants from that country will be eligible for the developing country discount. International students who apply to enroll and are designated as being from a developing country, retain that designation throughout their uninterrupted enrollment. Students who are first designated as being from a non-developing country may be reclassified, but not retroactively if their country becomes reclassified "developing".

Resources:

1. Calculator to determine the current day threshold for Developing countries
https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm
2. World Bank GNI Per capita Atlas method in current U.S \$ (in layman's terms – average earnings per capita by country).
<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GNP.PCAP.CD?view=chart> World Bank does not designate countries as developing or non-developing but does provide the GNI per capita figure. We will use that and compare it to the threshold as established by the Department of Education adjusted for inflation.

Methodology: The first link connects to a calculator that will calculate the developing country threshold in current year dollars. NTID Finance and Budget will use the calculator to compute the current threshold. This is performed by entering the \$5,345 base year amount and October 2005 in the top section. Below the "has the same buying power as" line, enter October of the current year. The amount generated will be the threshold in today's dollars, which entails taking the \$5,345 threshold from 2005 and increasing it by annual inflationary indexes.

The second link provides a listing of countries and their current average GNI per capita. If the average GNI per capita is equal or below the threshold, the country is considered to be a developing country. If it is higher than the threshold, the country would be considered non-developing.

Any changes to the list of developing and non-developing countries posted to the NTID website will be updated by October 31 of each year. This will be in advance of the November 15 timeline when application materials are due and will be used in determining developing country status until the list is updated the following October.