Trade tension casts shadow over flow of Chinese students

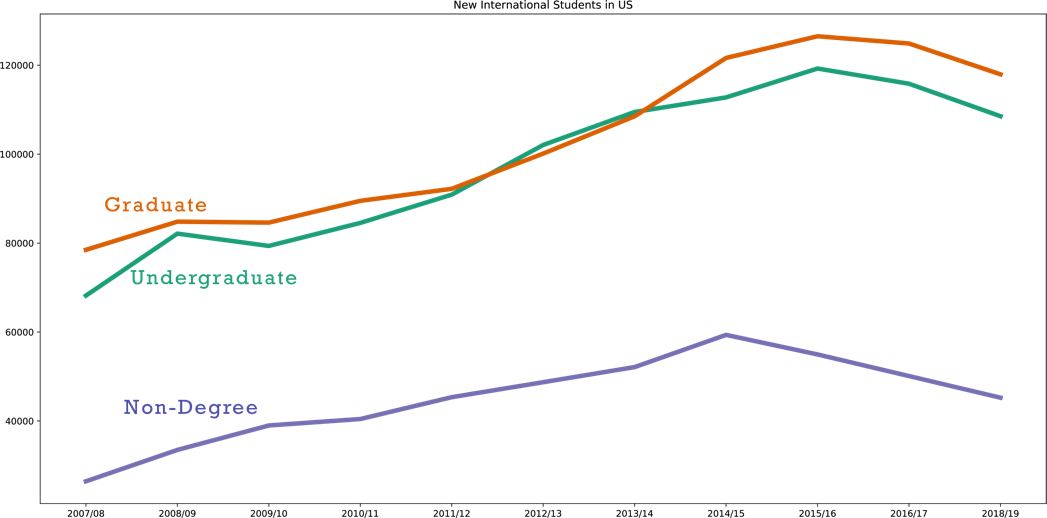
* Chinese students faced by rising visa refuslas and limits on study fields
* Number of new interntional students in the U.S. has declined

When the new semester is around the corner, Chinese students and scholars seeking to study in the U.S. may find it is harder than before to obtain a U.S. visa.

Recently Chinese students and scholars have encountered an increase in visa refusals and duration limits of their visas, China’s Ministry of Education released a warning statement in June, reminding “the need to strength risk assessment before studying abroad.”

In fact, before the trade war escalating with multi-rounds of tariffs, the Trump administration vowed in 2017 to consider restrictions on foreign students from designated countries in the fields of STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The international students enrollment in the U.S. showed the first drop since 2007, according to data from Institute of International Education (IIE). 这一行字体不对



Graphic1: NewIntStudents

Last June, the U.S. Statement made it clear that it would limit the visas for Chinese students studying science and engineering, which are one of the most popular study fields of Chinese students.

(to add a pie chart)

Graphic2：Fields of Study of Chinese Students in the U.S.

China has been the top place of origin for international students in the U.S. they contribute nearly US$13 billion to the American economy each year, according to NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

However, with the tension extending to academic field and multiple choices for study abroad, the growth of Chinese students going to the U.S. has been declined in recent years.

Graphic4: line chart of Chinese students’ growth

Even they succesfuly get the visa, international students, including Chinese students, who want to work in the U.S. after graduation may find their wings clipped due to limit on visa duration