New York state’s public university system is embracing a new initiative to send more students abroad.

State University of New York Chancellor Nancy Zimpher is expected to announce a partnership Wednesday with the Institute of International Education in support of a 25 percent increase in study abroad by 2020.

SUNY says it’s the first comprehensive university system in the nation to join the institute’s Generation Study Abroad initiative, which aims to double the number of U.S. college students who study overseas.

Institute President Allan Goodman says international experience is an important component of a 21st-Century resume, but less than 10 percent of college students now study abroad while earning their degree.

Zimpher is in New York City for SUNY’s fourth annual Critical Issues in Higher Education conference.

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