

Fact Sheet

- The Initiative to Educate Afghan Women was founded by Paula Nirschel in January 2002.
- The principle goal of the program is to provide qualified women from Afghanistan with four-year scholarships at colleges and universities throughout the United States.
- The IEAW requires that the women are employed in Afghanistan during summer break in positions that aid in the reconstruction of their country. They are also required to return home upon graduation to serve as role models and continue their reconstruction work. In addition to aiding in the reconstruction, these women help financially support their families.
- In August 2002, after months of Mrs. Nirschel's diligence and commitment, the first four scholarship recipients arrived.
- Currently, 2010-2011, there are 33 students studying at 15 schools across the country.
- Participating colleges and universities include:
 - Brenau University in Georgia
 - Bucknell University in Pennsylvania
 - College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts
 - Hollins University in Virginia
 - Juniata College in Pennsylvania
 - Meredith College in North Carolina
 - Montclair State University in New Jersey
 - Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts
 - Ramapo College in New Jersey
 - Randolph College in Virginia
 - Russell Sage College in New York
 - St. Mary's College in Maryland
 - Sweet Briar College in Virginia
 - University of Mary Washington in Virginia
 - University of Richmond in Virginia