

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN THE UNITED STATES

Pursuing Associate and Bachelor's degrees

U.S. Higher Education System

- You can enroll for an undergraduate degree in the U.S. upon successful completion of twelve years of schooling.
- The Associate degree takes two years to complete and is offered at community colleges and the Bachelor's degree takes four years to complete and is offered at degree-granting colleges and universities.
- Academic Intakes: Fall Semester starts in mid-August to September; Spring Semester starts in January. The academic year generally runs from mid-August to the end of May.
- Apply to accredited institutions - Accreditation is a system for recognizing educational institutions and professional programs, for a level of quality, performance, and integrity based on published criteria and standards.

Undergraduate Application Package

Admission standards and selectivity vary from school to school. Check university websites for latest information.

- Academic Record (Grades 9 to 12): Mark sheets and Transcripts
- Standardized Tests: SAT, SAT Subject, ACT, AP, PSAT
- English Proficiency Tests: TOEFL/ IELTS/ PTE/ Duolingo English Test
- Application and Supplemental Essays
- Letters of Recommendation
- Activities List/ Résumé /Profile
- Financial Documents - Declaration and Certificate of Finances Form/CSS Profile/ISFAA
- Application Form(s) and Application Fee

Admissions Process: Admissions processes and application deadlines vary. The best college or university is the one that is best fit for your needs and meets your requirements for academics, finances, and personal goals. Upon acceptance, students will receive an I-20 (certificate of eligibility). To enter the U.S., you must apply for a F-1 student visa. (J-1 or M-1 for short or non-degree programs).

Application Deadlines

<p>Regular Decision Apply to any number of schools without a binding commitment.</p>	<p>Early Action Apply to more than one school earlier than Regular Decision is nonbinding and does not require any commitment.</p>	<p>Restrictive Early Action is non-binding, you are not obligated to attend if accepted. However, you may not apply to any other schools in the early rounds. Applicants are expected to sign a statement that they agree to file only one early application.</p>	<p>Early Decision Must apply to only one school earlier than Regular Decision; binding and must attend upon acceptance unless financial aid offered is insufficient.</p>	<p>Rolling Admission applications are accepted on a continuous basis throughout the year.</p>
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Financial Assistance for International Students

Financial aid for international students at the undergraduate level is competitive. U.S. institutions consider a student's complete application package to identify scholarship candidates. The competitive package includes: Demonstrated strength in academics and interest in learning; Leadership qualities and commitment to extra-curricular activities and/or engagement with community; strong scores on standardized tests and Effective letters of recommendation(s)

Useful Websites and Resources

Step 1: Research Your Options

EducationUSA, Your Official Source on U.S. Higher Education: educationusa.state.gov

College search and navigation: www.collegeboard.org | www.petersons.com | www.edupass.org | <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>

U.S. Department of Education (for national statistics): www.ed.gov

Verifying accreditation status of an institution or program: <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home> (U.S. Department of Education) | <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/school-search> (Department of Homeland Security Database)

Step 2: Finance Your Studies

Funding opportunities by U.S. universities: educationusa.state.gov/find-financial-aid

Scholarship search: www.fundingusstudy.org | www.finaid.org

CSS Profile: <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

Net Price Calculator: <https://professionals.collegeboard.org/higher-ed/financial-aid/netprice>

Financial Aid data resources available at EducationUSA@USIEF

Step 3: Complete Your Application

Standardized Tests: SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests: www.sat.collegeboard.org |

ACT: www.actstudent.org

AP Exams: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home> | PSAT: www.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt

English Proficiency Tests: www.toefl.org | www.ielts.org | pearsonpte.com/ | englishtest.duolingo.com/

Common Application: www.commonapp.org | Universal College Application:

www.universalcollegeapp.com | Coalition for College Application: www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

Step 4: Apply for Your Student Visa

Visa Information: <https://in.usembassy.gov/> | www.ustraveldocs.com

Step 5: Prepare for Your Departure

Pre-Departure Information: educationusa.state.gov | www.usief.org.in

Pre-Departure Orientations/ Prepathon by EducationUSA@USIEF

Connect with Us

- Join us for a free virtual Ask an Adviser session on Your 5 Steps to U.S. Study – for timings visit <https://bit.ly/EducationUSAIndiaCalendar>
- Individualized advising by highly trained educational advisers for USIEF student members. For memberships visit <http://bit.ly/USIEFStudentMembership>
- Explore our calendar of events and attend specialized sessions on the application components. For events visit <https://bit.ly/EducationUSAIndiaCalendar>
- Sign up to get weekly EducationUSA updates on events and scholarships <http://bit.ly/EdUSASignup>
- Call us on the National Toll-Free Line: 1800 103 1231, Monday to Friday, 10 am – 5 pm
- Get updates on Twitter @EdUSA_India, Facebook and Instagram @EducationUSAIndia
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel @EducationUSA India for 24x7 advising videos on all application components

Use the QR Code to sign up for updates

Contact Us

EducationUSA@USIEF, Fulbright House, 12 Hailey Road, New Delhi 110 001

Tel: 011-42090909/78/79/80/83/84 | Toll free: 18001031231 (M-F, 2-5 pm)

Email: educationusaindia@usief.org.in | www.usief.org.in | educationusa.state.gov

YouTube: EducationUSA India | Facebook: EducationUSAIndia | Twitter: @EdUSA_India

Download the EducationUSA India Mobile App, available on Android and Apple

