

Quick Guide

Useful Websites - Undergraduate Study

Start your search here!

Whether you plan to pursue a short-term or full degree program in the United States, EducationUSA has the resources you need in 'Your Five Steps to U.S. Study'.

http://www.educationusa.info/5_steps_to_study/

Which university is right for you?

The websites below will help you find a college or university that best fits your needs. You shouldn't try to match yourself to the school, but rather find the school that matches you, your priorities and long-term goals.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

<http://www.petersons.com/>

<http://www.ctcl.org/>

<http://www.edupass.org/>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-admissions/explore-college-options>

<http://www.princetonreview.com/>

<http://www.usnews.com/education>

<http://www.collegeview.com/>

<http://www.collegeresults.org/>

<https://www.cappex.com/>

<http://college.usatoday.com>

US College Admissions Tests

While increasing numbers of colleges and universities in the United States are choosing to be 'test optional', most still require the SAT or ACT standardized tests for undergraduate admissions. Even 'test optional' institutions generally require standardized test scores to be considered for merit scholarships. Admissions requirements vary, so be sure to confirm which test(s) you need with the institutions that interest you. For more information, including test dates and registration, practice tests and other resources, please visit the websites below.

SAT

<https://sat.collegeboard.org/home>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat>

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsat-psat-10>

ACT: <http://www.actstudent.org/>

Test Optional Institutions: <http://www.fairtest.org/>

English Language Ability Tests

If English is not your native language, most US colleges and universities will ask you to take an English language proficiency test before admission. The most common tests for English language ability are the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

TOEFL: <http://www.ets.org/toefl>

IELTS: <http://ielts.org/>

The Common Application

The Common Application (informally known as the Common App) is an undergraduate college admission application that applicants may use to apply to any of its nearly 700+ member colleges and universities. Using the Common App enables students to apply to a number of institutions through one on-line application.

<http://www.commonapp.org>

Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success

The Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success (known as the Coalition) is an online platform which provides a single, centralized toolkit for students to organize, build, and refine their applications to numerous institutions. As with the Common App, students can use this tool to apply to its 130 member universities.

<http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org>

Financial Aid

When looking into studying in the United States, evaluating your finances should be one of the first things you do. Each year international students receive significant amounts of financial assistance for their studies. The United States is a large country and the cost of living varies greatly from place to place. You need to assess your funding and what you are able to spend on your education and living expenses. The websites below will help you, but be sure to also check the university websites.

<http://www.educationusa.state.gov/find-financial-aid>

[http://www.nafsa.org/Explore International Education/For Students/International Students Seeking to Study in the United States/](http://www.nafsa.org/Explore_International_Education/For_Students/International_Students_Seeking_to_Study_in_the_United_States/)

<http://www.iefaf.org/>

<http://fundingusstudy.org/>

[https://www.internationalstudent.com/schools awarding aid/](https://www.internationalstudent.com/schools_awarding_aid/)

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college>

Visa Information

Valid student visas are required to apply to the Department of Homeland Security for admission into the United States. Prior to applying, a student requires a *Form I-20* document issued by the US institution he/she will be attending.

<https://educationusa.state.gov/foreign-institutions-and-governments/understanding-us-higher-education/international-student>

<http://travel.state.gov>

<http://www.ustraveldocs.com/>