



STUDY IN THE USA



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EducationUSA.state.gov

Why Study in the USA?



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Quality of Education

- **Distinguished faculty and top teaching resources**
- **Practical training and internships**
- **Top research and development**
- **20 million students can't all be wrong!**
- **Accreditation system**
- **Hey, M.M. Lee says so!**



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Spoiled for Choice

Over 4,200 degree granting institutions

Over 1700 graduate programs

Over 900 majors

Double degrees and double majors

Optional Practical Training (OPT): 12 months for most, 29 months for Science, Tech, Math, Engineering



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Spoiled for Choice

Students can enter WITHOUT a dedicated major field of study

You may take up to two years to make a final decision.

In most cases, students apply TO THE UNIVERSITY, not TO A SPECIFIC FACULTY OR DEPARTMENT



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What's In A Name?

- **Americans tend to use the words college and university interchangeably**
- **In general, a institution which calls itself a college will focus primarily on students seeking their first degree**
- **Roughly speaking, a university will educate students seeking undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees**



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A Land of Diversity



**4 to 7 working days for
S'pore citizens/PRs
Others**



Open Doors to the World
764,495 foreign students in the USA
20,625,000 students on US
campuses



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The US Bachelor's Degree

**12 modules in a
primary field (major)**



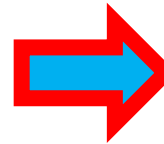
**8 modules in a
secondary field (minor)**



8 free choice modules



**12 modules of general
education requirements**



**One all-rounded US
undergraduate**



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The US Bachelor's Degree: Liberal Arts and YOU

- **General Education, also know as the Liberal Arts Style of Education: to provide critical thinking and problem solving skills to all students across all fields including --**
- **English Composition**
- **Arts and Humanities**
- **Communication**
- **Science**
- **Math**
- **Social Studies**



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Recognized in Singapore

- **All degrees from accredited US universities will be “recognized” in Singapore for employment**
- **Professional registration may be needed for:**
 - Medicine**
 - Dentistry**
 - Nursing**
 - Pharmacy**
 - Vet Med**
 - Accountancy**
 - Architecture**
 - Optometry**



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Please Note!

In the United States, law, medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine are graduate (postgraduate) programs. You must first obtain a bachelor's degree in order to apply.

A bachelor's degree in the U.S. usually takes four years. You may be able to accelerate this process.

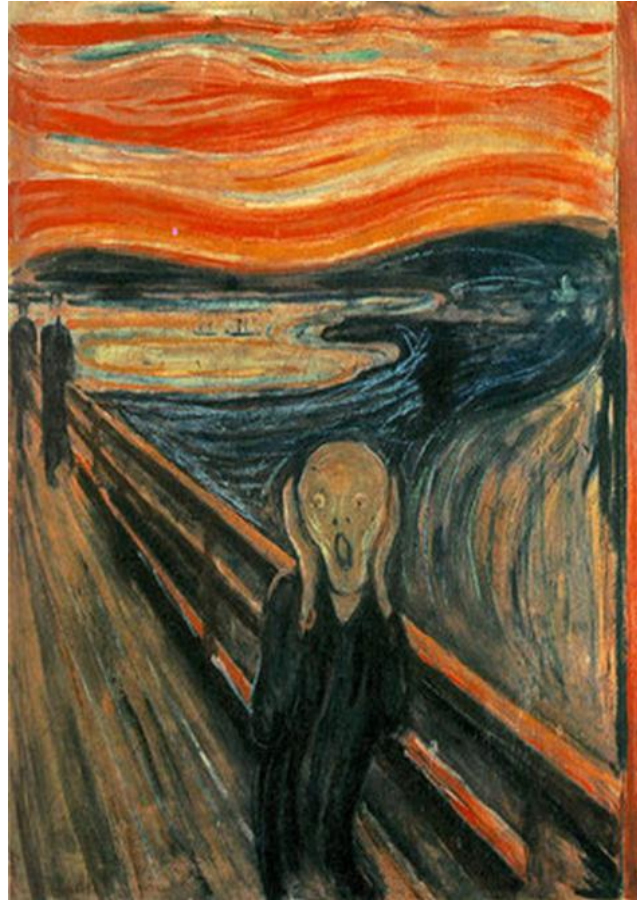
Course exemptions may be available on a case by case basis for A levels, IB higher exams and Poly Diploma holders at some but not all universities



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How Can I Choose?

- **Field of Study**
- **Cost**
- **Location**
- **Non-Academic Offerings**
- **Housing**



- **Accreditation**
- **Enrollment Size**
- **Required Tests**
- **Application Timetable**



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Rankings

There are no national or official rankings of universities in the United States!



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The Academic Year

Semester One: Fall
August to December



Semester Two: Spring
January to May



Many universities will allow you to begin your studies at either intake.



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Housing Options

On Campus Housing

- **Single-sex dormitories**
- **Co-ed dormitories**
- **Apartments**
- **Cooperative housing**
- **Fraternities/sororities**

Off Campus Housing

- **Houses**
- **Apartments**
- **Condominiums located near campus**



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Activities and Recreation

Students can take advantage of up to 500 clubs, activities and organizations including...

- **Volunteer activities**
- **Guest speakers**
- **Concerts, theater**
- **Films**
- **Sports**
- **Student government**
- **Student-produced newspapers, magazines, yearbooks**
- **Student operated radio and TV stations on campus**



Cost

- **Public vs. private universities**
- **Course fees for one academic year (2013-14)**
 - **University of Minnesota, Twin Cities: US\$19,870**
 - **George Washington U, Washington DC: US\$47,290**
- **Living expenses will vary: US\$10,000 to \$15,000**
- **Scholarships are available for top students: most are based on a COMBINATION of MERIT and NEED**
- **Limited financial aid or pure scholarships for international undergraduate students**



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Applying to U.S. Universities

What You Need

- **Application Form and Fee**
- **Proof of ability to pay (Financial Statement)**
- **Official transcripts or certified true copies of grades- you will use your prelims and predicted scores first**
- **Test results (TOEFL, SAT, SAT Subject Tests)**
- **Letters of recommendation from teachers**
- **Personal section—essay**



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National Service

Students who must perform National Service have several timeline options

- 1) apply using prelims/predicted scores**
- 2) apply during year one of NS—use final certificate**
- 3) apply during year two of NS**



Please note each university's deadline



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TOEFL

Test of English as a Foreign Language

Internet based test is administered 2 x per month in Singapore, register online

You may ask the university for a waiver



You will do well when compared to other foreign students.

IELTS and Pearson Academic may also be accepted



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The SAT Test

The Scholastic Assessment Test

- **A measure of critical thinking skills**
- **3 parts: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing**
- **Paper and pencil test, administered 7 times per year, register online at www.collegeboard.com**
- **Required by only 40% of US universities**



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The SAT Subject Tests

Test of Knowledge in Specific Fields

Biology

Chemistry

Literature

Math

Physics

US History

World History

Languages

Paper and pencil based tests administered 6 times per year

Register online at www.collegeboard.org

Required by only 3% of universities



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AN ALTERNATIVE: THE ACT TEST

- **ACT is the most popular university test in the US.**
- **All universities accept ACT results**
- **A kinder and gentler test for those who do not excel in Mathematics but may like science**
- **Available 4 times per year in Singapore**
- **www.act.org**



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Selection Process

- **Academic record**
- **Test results**
- **Letters of recommendation**
- **Extra-curricular Activities**
- **Essays**
- **Leadership**
- **Universities take a HOLISTIC approach to selecting students**



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Application Calendar

| When? | What to do? |
|------------------|---|
| May to July | Do research (visit USEIC!) |
| May/Oct/ Nov/Dec | Take the TOEFL TEST, SAT I and SAT Subject Tests if necessary |
| Nov - Feb | Submit applications |
| March | Receive acceptance letters |
| 1 May | Reply to universities-ask for deferment |
| June | Apply for student visa |
| August | Enrol in university in USA! |



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Virtual Campus Tours

- www.campustours.com
- www.collegeview.com
- www.youtube.com/educationusatv

USEIC Is Here to Help!

Making the choice

- **Individual advice and resources for finding the best university for you**
- **Info about college fairs and US university reps visiting**

Getting in

- **Help in completing your applications: essay assistance**
- **Certification of documents**

Getting there

- **Pre-departure materials**
- **Visa interview briefings**



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Who Ya Gonna Call?

Contact your friendly EducationUSA Center

- 70 Palmer Road
- #02 - 08 Palmer House
- (near Tanjong Pagar MRT)
- Tel: 6223 4566

• www.useic.org

• inquiry@useic.org



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